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Southeast Asian Nations Hold 'Secret Meeting'

BK1006152794 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Ten Southeast Asian nations agreed at a secret meeting in Manila last month not to interfere in each other's problem with separatist movements. They are the six ASEAN countries as well as Vietnam, Myanmar [Burma], Laos, and Cambodia.

A Philippine official said experts and officials from the 10 countries also discussed laying the groundwork for a regional common market.

Thai Deputy Prime Minister on Regional Transport

BK0306131794 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jun 94 p 26

[Text] Improving the transport system will be a first and crucial step in the promotion of trade and investment to support growth and diversification in the sub-region, Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said yesterday.

Mr Suphachai was speaking at the third Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand growth triangle (IMT-GT) tripartite meeting in Indonesia.

The Royal Thai government has made an allocation of US$36 million in the budget for 1995 for the creation of physical infrastructure and related facilities he pointed out.

The Thai government fully supports the IMT-GT project and would like to concretise co-operation projects, particularly in the fields of trade and investment, infrastructure linkages, and agreements in fishery development, he said.

"We should select, to start off with projects that are most feasible, least costly and therefore eligible for concessional financing," he observed.

"We must collectively agree on fair terms in the utilisation of the infrastructural network," he stated.

Private sector companies must be encouraged to work more closely together, as the projects will have to be executed by them. Governments will offer the right framework and the necessary facilities.

Dr Suphachai observed that the Thai side has made significant progress in several infrastructural projects.

These include upgrading the road linking Satun province to Songkhla province, paving the way for the creation of a lower southern seaboard area, and upgrading the seaport in Pattani and Satun provinces to support sea transportation links between Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

The engineering design for a bridge on the Narathiwat border to facilitate more cross-border trade with Malaysia has been completed.

The industrial zone projects, particularly at Chaulung in Songkhla province, are being speeded up and should be completed in the third quarter of this year, said Dr Suphachai.

He went on: "These projects, when completed, will help reduce the weakness of the infrastructural links between southern Thailand and northern Malaysia.

"Improvement in the air and shipping services in the sub-region should be treated as a priority.

"Our IMT-GT sub-regional economic co-operation is now becoming widely known as an effective instrument of AFTA intra-regional cooperation within the context of free trade areas that can also help in the redistribution of income to the regional areas."

Malaysian Deputy Premier on New Security Plan

BK0606113194 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0830 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Monday, the Asia-Pacific region needed a new regional security arrangement based on the idea of the interdependence and equity of nations within a global community.

It must also principally serve the interests of the people of the region, not the vested interests of arms merchants and defence industries, he added.

We must progress from containment, or even mere peaceful co-existence, towards productive and mutually beneficial collaboration in all spheres of activity, he said when addressing the eighth Asia-Pacific Roundtable on Confidence Building and Conflict Reduction in the Pacific, here.

He said that for Asians in particular, such an arrangement must provide the right kind of environment for the full flowering of their economic, social and cultural potentials.

We must also [word indistinct] a new global partnership for peace, one based on mutual respect and genuine understanding between nations, large and small, North and South, East and West.

Statement Issued at Southeast Asian Meeting

BK0906132094 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jun 94 p 4

[Statement signed by 19 "distinguished thinkers" attending an informal meeting of 10 Southeast Asian states in Manila 30-31 May: "Towards a Southeast Asia of Peace and Prosperity"]

[Text] We believe that Southeast Asia should be a community. Collectively, this community should be a major political, economic, cultural, and moral entity on the world stage in the 21st century.

Geography has consigned us to living in close proximity with each other, and geography has made it incumbent upon us to meet, live, and work together as good neighbours. Throughout our common history, trade and cultural exchanges have characterised our relations with one another. However, we have often failed the tests of good neighbourliness. Conflicts and wars have arisen, and geographical proximity meant that in such conflicts and wars each of us ultimately lost something in the process.

Geography has given us a shared destiny, and the fact of this shared destiny, we believe, means that we must strive to build a Southeast Asian community.

This community should be a pluralistic community.

It should be a community of equal and sovereign states, each with its own identity, preferred interests, valued relationships, and conceptions of development and progress, but also with a sense of common destiny, shared perceptions of its own future, and common commitments to the enhancement of regional peace and prosperity, fundamental human values, and the basic principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

Furthermore, this Southeast Asian community should also be a community of peace and prosperity. The states and peoples of Southeast Asia should strive to create structures of relationships and of shared values, which enable them to live in peace with one another and with the rest of the world, to engage in mutually rewarding cooperation among themselves and with others, and to develop the potential of their own human and natural resources to the fullest extent, so that prosperity can be shared by all.

This Southeast Asian community of peace and prosperity that we envision should be a model of international cooperation for the rest of the global community.

Lastly, we believe that, by virtue of being a model of international cooperation and by enhancing the region's strengths through collective endeavour, this Southeast Asian community should also strive to be a building block towards a global community. In this way it becomes a central actor on the global political and economic stage.

In the past, military might determined the destiny of nations. Increasingly, international influence is and will be founded upon other factors, most notably, economic and technological dynamism, qualities of national resilience and moral leadership, and demonstration of the ability to achieve peace and security through amity and consensus-building.

We firmly believe that the time has come to articulate and pursue this vision of Southeast Asia, for the rapid and far-reaching changes which have been taking place since the end of the Cold War offer us a unique opportunity to shape our own destiny as the 21st century approaches.

To realise this vision of Southeast Asia, there are a number of principles which we believe to be imperative.

The first principle is national and regional resilience. By this we mean that need to develop and rely upon individual and collective capacity to mobilise the full potential of our human and natural resources, while seeking ways of minimising our shortcomings and limitations.

The second is unity in diversity. This means a recognition not only of the differences that divide us, but also of the need and capacity for reconciling and transcending those differences through processes of building trust and consensus.

The third is the principle of common national interests. This means a recognition that, while there are certain opportunities and challenges which are of direct, and sometimes critical, concern to individual states, these can be best taken advantage of and coped with through collective efforts. These opportunities include trade, investment, and human and natural resource development, and the challenges consist of such problems as the environment, narcotics, illegal movement of people, piracy and the spread of disease.

The fourth is open regionalism. This means a recognition that, while we wish to build a stronger and more cohesive community, there is also the need to be outward-looking, to look beyond Southeast Asia, and to continue to strengthen political, economic, and cultural ties—be they bilateral or multilateral—with countries outside the region.

Strategy for community-building

To become such a community, Southeast Asia must adopt a multi-dimensional strategy.

In the political and security dimension, we should:

—strengthen the network of bilateral relations among Southeast Asian states,

—strengthen and expand ASEAN membership to include all regional states,

—extend accession to the 1976 Treaty of Amity and Cooperation to all regional states,

—encourage all Southeast Asian states to participate in ASEAN-sponsored or -initiated forums, including the ASEAN Regional Forum, as mechanisms for regio wide dialogues in political security matters, and

—convene regular consultations among all Southeast Asian leaders, to strengthen the habit of cooperation and to set the direction and pace of community-building.

In the economic and technological dimension, we should:

—accelerate the full implementation of the AFTA [ASEAN Free Trade Area] and CEPT [Common Effective Preferential Tariff] agreements by the year 2000,

—prepare and initiate the phased integration of other Southeast Asian states into AFTA and CEPT,

—promote collaboration in research, development, and distribution of alternative energy resources, as well as the management of other natural resources of regional value,

—set up regional mechanisms to study and recommend ways of stimulating intra-regional investment, development of technology and human resources, as well as transnational flows of information and knowledge, and

—extend the ASEAN Business Forum to other Southeast Asian states.

In the social and cultural dimension, we should:

—take immediate steps to facilitate and expand people-to-people contacts and exchanges,

—harmonise immigration laws and procedures,

—upgrade intra-regional communication and telecommunication systems,

—expand exchange programmes for students and civil servants,

—establish Southeast Asian press and information networks,

—promote Southeast Asian studies and languages in educational institutions,

—establish a Southeast Asian university system,

—establish a Southeast Asian Cultural Centre in each of the Southeast Asian countries, and

—set up a Southeast Asian disaster relief mechanism.

Flagships

To achieve this vision, a number of "flagship" projects and measures must be adopted immediately.

—There should be a Southeast Asian Summit, which can be an informal meeting, to give impetus to the building of a Southeast Asian community. This should take place as soon as possible.

—There should be a dual-track regional initiative on Cambodia. The first track consists of political and diplomatic initiatives to revitalise and consolidate the peace process. The second involves mobilisation of funds for social and economic reconstruction, which will serve to underpin the efficacy of the political and diplomatic moves. Such mobilisation can include the issuance of bonds, officially endorsed by Southeast Asian governments, or the establishment of a bank for the reconstruction of Cambodia.

—Southeast Asian leaders should endorse the ASEAN initiative on the South China Sea and immediately undertake concrete projects of cooperation for confidence-building among the states concerned.

—A series of meetings at ministerial and senior official levels should be urgently convened to develop mechanisms for resolving the various boundary problems, including illegal movement of people, narcotics, smuggling, piracy, the spread of contagious diseases, natural resource management and environmental conservation.

—A series of meetings at ministerial and senior official levels should be urgently convened to increase and expand economic and technical cooperation among all Southeast Asian countries. The main emphasis in the initial stages should be on trade, investment and human resource development.

—Southeast Asia should immediately undertake the development of alternative renewable energy resources, such as rip-tide and deuterium, to be shared by the region.

—Southeast Asia should immediately demonstrate its commitment to support projects aimed at harnessing and equitably utilising the resources of the Mekong River and its tributaries. This commitment will serve to promote and underline the sense of regional identity, as well as to encourage a development which is likely to benefit the region as a whole.

—Southeast Asia should immediately establish a "Southeast Asian Development Corps." This will offer opportunities, especially to the young, to learn about other countries' problems and their solutions at first hand, and foster a sense of regional identity.

—At the 1995 ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, the ASEAN leaders should collectively support this vision of a Southeast Asian community.

We invite all peoples and nations of our region to share in this vision and collectively work towards the realisation of a peaceful and prosperous Southeast Asia.

[Signed] Jose T. Almonte; Mohamed Jawhar Hassan; Pham Van Cheong; Kamarudin Jaffar; Carolina G. Hernandez; Dorodjatun Kuntjoro-Jakti; Lau Teik Soon; Sabam Siagian; Nguyen Viet Loan; Sisowath Sirirath; Sukhumphan Boriphat; Surin Phitsuwan; Sarasin Wiraphon; Phanthong Phommahaxay; M. Rajaretnam; Jusuf Wanandi; Shaharil Taliba; U Win-Pe; Tan Sri Zainal Abidin Sulong

Japan

Ministerial Framework Talks To Start 22 Jun

OW1406082294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0818 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold vice ministerial-level meetings on the bilateral trade framework talks on June 22 and 23 in Tokyo, Foreign Ministry sources said Tuesday [14 June].

Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshevsky will arrive in Japan on June 21 to attend the meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister Sadayuki Hayashi, the sources said.

Prior to the meeting, working-level talks on telecommunications equipment will be held on June 16 and 17 and medical equipment talks will be held on June 21 and 22, both in Tokyo, the sources said. Since agreeing to resume the stalled framework talks, Japan and the U.S. have held working-level talks on telecommunications equipment and medical equipment earlier this month, reporting some progress.

Hata, Clinton Discuss DPRK Issue on Phone

Phone Conversation Held

OW1406053494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0509 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata and U.S. President Bill Clinton discussed over the phone Tuesday North Korea's reported decision to pull out from the United Nations' nuclear watchdog, Japanese officials said.

The conversation, which lasted about 18 minutes, followed Pyongyang's announcement Monday that it has decided to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) due to "unreasonable sanctions" imposed by the agency.

The punitive action was taken for North Korea's rejection of inspections of its nuclear facilities suspected of being used for nuclear arms development.

The Vienna-based IAEA says it has not received any word from Pyongyang about the reported move.

Japan's Support Reassured

OW1406061394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0602 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata reassured U.S. President Bill Clinton on Tuesday [14 Jun] of Japan's resolve to support possible UN sanctions against North Korea, a Foreign Ministry official said.

"If a resolution is adopted, we will take responsible action within the bounds of our constitution," the premier was quoted as saying in a telephone talk with Clinton.

He was referring to a possible UN resolution calling for sanctions against Pyongyang because it refuses to allow further inspections of its nuclear facilities, suspected of being used in a push to develop nuclear weapons.

During the 20-minute conversation, Clinton said the U.S. perceives the North Korean nuclear issue as posing problems for nuclear nonproliferation and global security, the official said.

The U.S. President also spoke of the need for the United States, Japan and South Korea to take a united front in persuading Pyongyang to allay international concerns over its suspected nuclear program.

Clinton voiced grave concern over North Korea's reported decision to immediately withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), adding the international community should keep an eye on any move by the communist nation, the official said.

North Korea said Monday it will immediately withdraw from the IAEA over the Vienna-based nuclear watchdog's "unreasonable sanctions" and its attempt "to intrude even into our military sites."

Noting China has to play a key role in encouraging North Korea to clear its suspicions on its nuclear program, Hata said Japan will keep in close touch and cooperate with the U.S. in pursuit of resolution of the issue.

The premier also said he shares with Clinton the view that the UN Security Council is nearing the stage of deciding on appropriate steps, including sanctions, in dealing with North Korea, the official said.

Hata denied Tokyo's reported reluctance to levy sanctions on Pyongyang, saying it is way off the mark.

Asked to comment on Russia's proposal to call an eight-party international conference to resolve the nuclear fray on the Korean peninsula, Japan's chief executive responded he evaluates highly Moscow's efforts but noted the Security Council's move should not be affected by such a gathering.

While showing understanding of Hata's view, Clinton said the U.S. will seek to cooperate with Russia on the matter, the official said.

Kakizawa-Christopher Talks on Phone Noted

OW1406045194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0357 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher agreed Tuesday that North Korea's decision to quit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is a matter of deep concern, officials said.

Kakizawa and Christopher also agreed over the phone that Pyongyang's decision to leave the IAEA and reject further inspections of its nuclear facilities is an internationally unacceptable act, the Foreign Ministry officials said.

They agreed to maintain close contact on the problem.

Pyongyang's action runs counter to international demands to abide by the nuclear safeguards arrangements and its refusal of further inspections may make matters worse, the officials quoted Kakizawa as saying.

Christopher also voiced serious concern and indicated that the United States may review its stance in the UN discussions on the North Korean situation, the officials said.

Kakizawa, who visited South Korea and China over the weekend, told Christopher he held frank discussions with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu on the North Korean nuclear dispute.

The Foreign Minister said he agreed with the South Korean leaders to maintain bilateral coordination on the issue and to seek gradual sanctions against Pyongyang.

China is also seriously concerned about the situation, Kakizawa said. He told Christopher that he urged China to continue to try to persuade North Korea to change its stance. The minister said he also asked China to play a positive role in the UN Security Council regarding the problem.

Kakizawa quoted Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen as saying Beijing wants to play a constructive role in solving the North Korean nuclear dispute, the officials said.

Christopher said he will closely watch China's moves.

Meanwhile, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroshi Kumagai quoted Kakizawa as telling Christopher that Japan intends to cope calmly with the North Korean nuclear problem.

The top government spokesman also told a press conference that Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata will talk to U.S. President Bill Clinton over the telephone, possibly later Tuesday.

The premier will seek to have a "frank" talk with Clinton, Kumagai said.

Earlier in the day, Hata expressed regret over North Korea's reported decision.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Terusuke Terada issued a statement Tuesday morning, calling on North Korea to reconsider its decision.

In Washington, the White House said Clinton talked with Russian President Boris Yeltsin over the phone about an international conference on North Korea. Yeltsin told South Korean President Kim in Moscow on June 2 that Russia, the U.S., Japan, China, the United Nations and the IAEA should join North and South Korea in holding a conference to defuse the North Korean nuclear crisis.

At the UN in New York, U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright told reporters the U.S. will submit a sanctions resolution to the UN Security Council in the next couple of days.

Tokyo's Reaction to DPRK's Withdrawal from IAEA

Hata Expresses 'Regret'

OW1406013294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0123 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata expressed regret Tuesday over North Korea's reported decision to quit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and reject further inspections of its nuclear facilities.

In a related development, Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher talked over the phone Tuesday morning and shared concern over Pyongyang's decision, government sources said.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Terusuke Terada issued a statement Tuesday morning, calling on North Korea to reconsider its decision to leave the IAEA and reject further inspections of its nuclear facilities, as reported by the official KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY on Monday night.

The spokesman said in the statement that the North Korean action runs counter to the international community's calls for Pyongyang to abide by the nuclear safeguards arrangements.

The Japanese reaction to the North Korean announcement came as other world leaders were busy exploring steps to deal with the looming crisis on the Korean peninsula.

In Washington, the White House said President Bill Clinton talked with Russian President Boris Yeltsin over the phone about an international conference on North Korea.

Yeltsin told South Korean President Kim Yong-sam in Moscow on June 2 that Russia, the United States, Japan, China, the United Nations and the IAEA should join North and South Korea in holding a conference to defuse the North Korean nuclear crisis.

At the UN in New York, U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright told reporters the U.S. will submit a sanctions resolution to the UN Security Council in the next couple of days.

Kakizawa told Christopher that Japan intends to cope calmly with the North Korean nuclear problem, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroshi Kumagai said at a news conference.

The top government spokesman also revealed that Hata will talk to Clinton over the telephone, possibly later Tuesday.

The premier will seek to have a "frank" talk with Clinton, Kumagai said.

Hata Interviewed

OW1406035494 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata expressed his serious regrets at the House of Councillors' Budget Committee this morning on North Korea's (the DPRK's) announcement of its withdrawal from the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency). He indicated that he would continue to persist in persuading North Korea to agree to hold dialogue with the international community.

[Begin Hata recording] With regard to the withdrawal from IAEA, it is indeed unfortunate. However, this still does not mean withdrawal from the nuclear NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty]. In the circumstances, we still hold hopes that they [the North Koreans] will open their doors to the international community as soon as possible to eliminate suspicions about their development of nuclear weapons. [end recording]

Hata thus indicated his intention to persist in persuading North Korea to engage in dialogue with the international community.

Foreign Ministry Comments

OW1406025094 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 22005 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Announcer-read report from the NHK 7 O'Clock Morning (2200 GMT) News]

[Text] Japanese Foreign Ministry analysts believe that North Korea is taking a tough stand in an attempt to win some kind of compromise to prevent United Nations' sanctions. Japan—without responding excessively to North Korea's announcement to secede from the IAEA, and by maintaining ties with the United States, the ROK, and China—wants to strengthen its effort to persuade North Korea to sit down at the discussion table with the international community.

Possible Sanctions Considered

OW1406045694 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] The government disclosed at the House of Councillors' Budget Committee today that it is studying concrete measures to be taken if economic sanctions are imposed against North Korea, including a halt on remittances, and restrictions on exports and imports.

According to Justice Minister Hiroshi Nakai, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii, Minister of International Trade and Industry Eijiro Hata, and Transport Minister Nobuaki Futami, specific measures being considered include: A ban on North Korean diplomats' entry into Japan, a halt to remittances under the Foreign Exchange Control Act, restrictions on exports and imports and the services trade under the Export and Import Trade Control Order, surveillance of ships by the Maritime Safety Agency following amendment of the Trade Control Order. The ministers disclosed that the concerned government ministries and agencies were studying concrete steps to restrict personnel traffic and exports and imports.

DPRK on Tokyo 'Preparing SDF' Against North

OW1406074594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—North Korea accused Japan on Tuesday of preparing to dispatch Self Defense Force (SDF) troops to the Korean Peninsula under the guise of "collective security measures" according to a report from Pyongyang monitored in Tokyo.

The Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) dispatch said that an analyst for NODONG SINMUN, the Korean Workers' Party newspaper, accused Japan of zealously joining the United States in its efforts to force North Korea to agree to international inspections of its nuclear facilities.

The analyst warned that if international sanctions were imposed on North Korea, Japan would dispatch SDF personnel to the Korean peninsula. "This indicates Japan's hostile policy (toward North Korea) is reaching the extreme," the analyst said.

The KCNA report was monitored by the Korea News Service, a Tokyo-based agency watching developments on the peninsula.

DPRK Official Denies Developing Nuclear Weapons

OW1406030294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0250 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—North Korea told a delegation from Japan's Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ] that the country is not trying to develop nuclear weapons, SDPJ officials said Tuesday.

Hwang Chang-yop, the Korean Worker's Party's secretary in charge of international affairs, told the visiting delegation of SDPJ legislators in Pyongyang that "North Korea will not have nuclear bombs" and has neither the technology nor funds for such a purpose.

SDPJ officials in Tokyo said the legislators headed by House of Representatives member Kazo Watanabe held talks with North Korean officials in Pyongyang on Monday.

Watanabe reportedly conveyed a message from Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata to the effect that resolution of the nuclear row through dialogue will help improve relations between Japan and North Korea. The two countries have no diplomatic relations.

Hwang's remarks echo comments by North Korean President Kim Il-song in the fall of 1990 to a joint delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and SDPJ members.

The SDPJ delegation entered the North Korean capital via Beijing on Saturday and held talks with ruling party officials, including Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the reunification policy committee, over the nuclear problems and bilateral issues.

The delegation is returning home Tuesday by way of Beijing.

The SDPJ, Japan's second largest opposition party, has traditionally maintained close relations with North Korea, which is suspected of pursuing a nuclear weapons development program.

Hata To Urge Continued Western Aid for Russia

OW1406033994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0323 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata indicated Tuesday [14 Jun] he will appeal for continued aid to Russia, eastern Europe and South Africa when he meets leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations at the Naples summit in July.

Hata told the House of Councillors Budget Committee the developing countries would have serious difficulty in solving their various problems if the G-7 discontinued its aid.

Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States are scheduled to take part in the summit.

Government Agency Plans Management Lecture in SRV

OW1306055194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0500 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Osaka, June 13 KYODO—The Pacific Resource Exchange Center, a government-backed agency, will dispatch its officials to Vietnam to lecture on corporate management and other issues, center officials said Monday [13 Jun].

The lecture, to be held June 14-24 in Ho Chi Minh city and Hanoi, is designed to help Vietnam smoothly shift to a market economy under its "doi moi" reform policy.

The economic reform has engendered a number of problems, such as a widening gap in the living standards between big cities and other areas and deteriorating health of state-run enterprises.

The planned lecture will focus on ways to nurture and strengthen managerially weak small firms and breathe new life into economically backward local areas.

Mitsui To Conduct LPG Feasibility Study in SRV

OW1006025594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0243 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 10 KYODO—Mitsui and Co., Japan's giant trading house, will look into the possibility of a 400 million dollar liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) project in Vietnam in conjunction with three foreign partners, a Mitsui official said Friday [10 June].

The three other parties involved are Vietnam's public oil company PetroVietnam, British Gas PLC and Trans-Canada Pipelines Ltd., the official said.

Depending on the result of a feasibility study to be conducted soon, the parties involved in the project will set up a joint concern as early as this year to explore natural gas flowing out of an oil field off the southern Vietnamese coast.

The project calls for laying a 130-kilometer pipeline linking the oil field with an LPG plant in Vung Tau, southeast of Ho Chi Minh City.

Production is slated to begin in the latter half of 1996 at the earliest, with annual production of some 260,000 tons intended for export to Japan, China and Southeast Asia as well as for use at local power plants, the official added.

Government Denounces Nuclear Arms Use

OW1006152494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1503 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 10 KYODO—The Japanese Government Friday submitted to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) a statement calling the use of nuclear arms "contrary to the spirit of humanity."

But the statement of the government's view on the legality of using nuclear weapons in armed conflict was stripped of a phrase included in an earlier draft which had denied such use constitutes a violation of international law.

The ICJ or so-called World Court had called on U.N. members to submit "advisory opinions" on the legality of using nuclear weapons after the World Health Organization (WHO) in May 1993 requested the court to decide whether or not nuclear warfare violates international law.

The government received a request from the ICJ last September to submit its written statement by Friday.

"The government believes that because of the immense power to cause destruction, death and injury to human beings, the use of nuclear weapons is clearly contrary to the spirit of humanity that gives international law its philosophical foundation," the Japanese statement said.

"Japan, the only nation that has suffered nuclear attack, considers that nuclear weapons must never be used," the statement said, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

It further noted that the government "firmly maintains" the country's three nonnuclear principles—not possessing, not producing and not introducing nuclear weapons into Japanese territory.

Japan, it said, "will always strive to promote nuclear disarmament and nuclear nonproliferation with a view to achieving the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons."

The government had intended to submit a paper which said the use of nuclear arms technically does not violate international law but decided to delete the phrase after strong criticism from opposition parties and from victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa was quoted as telling the mayors of the two cities in a meeting Thursday that "It is difficult to affirm (the use of nuclear arms is) a complete violation when thinking about the reality of international politics."

The dispute was further aggravated by timing as the standoff over North Korea's alleged development of nuclear weapons is at a highly sensitive stage with the possibility of U.N. sanctions looming.

Tokyo, EU To Sign Pact on Business Cooperation

OW1406101994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Japan and the European Union (EU) on Tuesday [14 June] agreed to cooperate further in enhancing each other's industrial foundation, Japanese Trade Ministry officials said.

At the end of the second "Japan-EU Industrial Policy and Cooperation Dialogue" in Tokyo, Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and the European Commission issued a joint statement calling for industrial cooperation not only in existing areas such as electric home appliances but in new sectors like computers, auto parts and office equipment, the officials said.

The statement said both parties will also support dialogue between Japanese and EU business leaders to be held by the end of this year under the newly established "roundtable." Under the manufacturing technology fellowship program, young European engineers will be invited to work in Japanese plants for up to one year, the statement said.

The MITI officials said Japan and the EU confirmed the importance of further action in existing cooperative areas, among them the training of European engineers through the Industrial Cooperation Center (ICC). The ICC was created in Tokyo in 1987 as a way to get European companies accustomed to Japanese business practices and market conditions.

Sozaburo Okamatsu, vice MITI minister for international affairs, led a Japanese team at Tuesday's meeting while the European side was headed by Riccardo Perissich, chief of the European Commission's Industry Bureau [name and title as received].

Naval Exchange Program With SKN Planned

OW1406033694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0304 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Plans for the first ever exchange of Japanese and South Korean naval training squadrons are moving forward, Defense Agency sources said Tuesday [14 Jun].

The two countries are working out the schedule, ports of call and other details for the exchange between Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) and the South Korean Navy [SKN], the sources said.

Former Defense Agency Chief Kazuo Aichi and South Korean Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae agreed during Yi's visit to Japan in April that the exchange would be one link in realizing broader military exchanges.

Progress on the exchange comes as Japanese and South Korean vessels are taking part for the first time together in the six-nation RIMPAC naval exercises near Hawaii and as concern over North Korea's suspected nuclear arms program continues to mount on the Korean peninsula.

According to the agency sources, South Korea proposed the mutual exchange immediately after Yi returned to South Korea from Japan. A South Korean squadron will visit Japan followed by a return visit by a Japanese squadron to a South Korean port.

Japanese officials say that "fundamentally there are no obstacles" for the exchange but add the situation in North Korea could alter the plans.

Young officers in the MSDF training squadron have just recently completed their land-based training and have visited different parts of the world every year for their training at sea.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the officer trainees have visited the Philippines and Guam but have yet to make a port call in South Korea.

In the past, South Korea has suggested that its submarine personnel train on Japanese submarines, but the Defense Agency has never taken any action.

In its 1992-93 white paper on defense, South Korea called for broader military exchanges with Japan as a contribution to the reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Tokyo To Provide $9 Million Emergency Aid to Rwanda

OW1006011094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0022 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 10 KYODO—Japan will extend emergency aid totaling 9 million dollars to international organizations to help the victims of the conflict in Rwanda, the Foreign Ministry said Friday [10 June].

The aid consists of 6.45 million dollars to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, 2.4 million dollars to the International Committee of the Red Cross and 150,000 dollars to the World Health Organization, the ministry said.

The conflict in Rwanda has been expanding and intensifying since disputes erupted between government and anti-government troops in early April. The ministry quoted UN sources as saying more than 500,000 people have died as a result of the fighting and massacres, while about 3 million people have either left their homes or fled to Tanzania, Burundi, Zaire and Uganda.

But despite efforts by humanitarian organizations, the victims of the conflict are in disastrous condition because of the lack of food, drinking water and medical goods, the ministry said.

Hata Plans End to Fray Over War Guilt

OW0906143594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1427 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata plans to offer an explicit apology to nations victimized by Japan's war conduct next year when Japan commemorates the 50th anniversary of its surrender in World War II, a top government official said.

"Prime Minister Hata is considering putting an end to a fray to alleviate all the troubles (surrounding Japan's war reparation) by taking the opportunity on the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II," the official said on condition of anonymity.

Hata plans to resolve controversies involving redress for former "comfort women," who were forced into prostitution by Japan's Imperial Army before and during World War II, and Japan's confiscation of postal savings of Taiwanese citizens then under Japanese rule, he said.

Unpaid money that includes the postal savings deposited by Taiwanese before and during World War II total 452.4 million yen, according to a government estimate.

In a related development, Hata became the first Japanese prime minister to meet with Korean and Philippine comfort women Thursday [9 June]. The unofficial meeting was arranged in a Diet corridor.

Hata also wants to arrange for a Diet resolution that Japan will not invade other countries again and for various official projects and ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary, he said.

However, Japan remains reluctant to make any individual reparation payments or to take "actions that could be a substitute for the reparation," the official said.

Party Leaders Discuss Political Situation

OW1206092194

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese in its "Sunday Discussion" (Nichiyo Toron) program at 0000 GMT on 12 June begins broadcasting a live, 60-minute roundtable discussion on the current political situation in Japan. The program is moderated by NHK commentator Takashi Yamamoto. Participating in the discussions are Kozo Watanabe, acting Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) secretary general, and Kansei Nakano, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), who are at the NHK studio. They are joined by Wataru Kubo, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ), and Yoshiro Mori, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), who are linked to the studio via remote hookup.

Prior to the discussion, the program briefly describes the current, unstable political situation with the current Diet session scheduled to adjourn late in June. At 0230 GMT, Yamamoto asks Mori whether the LDP still plans to submit a no-confidence motion against the administration of Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata. Mori says that the plan has not been changed and stresses that the minority government of Prime Minister Hata should hand over power to the LDP. He states: "With the passage of the FY 1994 budget, the Hata administration has finished serving its purpose."

In response, Watanabe says that sensible members of the LDP and the SDPJ do not really favor Hata's immediate resignation and that "should the LDP persist in submitting the no-confidence motion for no due reason, the SDPJ, as well as the general public, would oppose it."

When asked what he feels about the LDP asking that power be turned over because Hata currently leads a minority government, Nakano replies that even though a minority government is not a normal situation, "it is not sufficient reason to propose a no- confidence motion."

Asked how he feels about the same matter, Kubo answers: "There must be a good reason for a no-confidence motion. It is also irresponsible to turn out a government without the next administration that will replace it having a sound plan about what it intends to do." He emphasizes that the party has no intention of submitting a no-confidence motion right away.

As for the possibility of the SDPJ's returning to the coalition, Kubo says that the party does not intend to return to the coalition right away and that it is only considering that possibility by holding further policy consultations—not from the point where the party left the coalition immediately following the formation of the Kaishin parliamentary group but rather back when the coalition parties drew up policy accords on 22 April.

Asked to comment on Kubo's remarks, Watanabe states that it is necessary for the SDPJ to return to the coalition.

Nakano agrees and says that the DSP will do its part to try to convince the SDPJ to return to the coalition.

Mori says that although it is up to the SDPJ to decide whether to return to the coalition, all the parties concerned should look back at what caused the SDPJ to leave the coalition, and he states that power should be turned over to the LDP because both Prime Minister Hata and former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa have advocated creating a political structure under which political forces can take turns ruling whenever this is appropriate.

Watanabe says that the LDP can naturally return to power if it can win a majority of seats in the next general election that would be held under a new electoral system. He urges the LDP to support the Hata administration for the time being because the economy finally seems to be headed for a recovery and because there is the current need to deal with the DPRK nuclear issue. Watanabe adds that the LDP should then take on the coalition in a general election after these problems have been solved.

Mori notes that the LDP has already offered the coalition sufficient cooperation.

Asked whether the SDPJ plans to propose a no-confidence motion if the Hata administration fails to resign voluntarily, Kubo answers that the party is not out to topple the administration just for the sake of toppling it but rather that the party is prepared to offer its full cooperation toward forming a new coalition government. He adds that a general election following the dissolution of the Diet is an option.

The discussion then continues on the issue of the SDPJ's possible return to the coalition.

At 0027 GMT, Kubo explains topics on which agreement needs to be reached between the SDPJ and the coalition parties as a condition for the SDPJ's return to the coalition. Nakano emphasizes the importance of thorough discussions toward this end, and Watanabe reiterates this.

Concerning possible policy consultations between the LDP and the SDPJ, Mori says that under the current conditions, it would be difficult for the two parties to hold concrete consultations.

At 0039 GMT, Yamamoto asks Kubo about the SDPJ's view regarding the consumption tax. Kubo replies that the government should make greater efforts to make the people understand the need for a consumption tax increase, rather than having the government just say that this is necessary because of expected revenue shortfalls. Watanabe explains that the coalition government is currently working on tax reforms which fully consider the SDPJ's suggestions.

Asked about the situation within the LDP on the issue of submitting a no-confidence motion against the Hata administration, Mori denies that the party is divided over this issue, saying: "When I spoke to Mr. [Toshiki] Kaifu the other day, he said that his intentions were not necessarily being conveyed accurately. Mr. [Hiroshi] Mitsuzuka said that the party should not submit a no-confidence motion while knowing that it will be defeated. Of course, it goes without saying that the party needs to listen to such opinions from both within and outside the party."

At 0048 GMT, Yamamoto shows an illustration which portrays the courses of action if a no-confidence motion were to be submitted and what might happen if the motion were not submitted. Discussions continue on the issues of a no-confidence motion, a dissolution of the Diet, and the next general election.

After lengthy discussions, the program ends at 0100 GMT.

Toyoda Asks Hata for Leadership on Deregulation

OW1406034594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0312 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), called Tuesday [14 Jun] on Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata for his cabinet's leadership in implementing deregulation and other administrative reform, officials said.

"The cabinet should break the wall of vested interests and lead administrative reforms decisively," Toyoda told Hata in a meeting at the prime minister's official residence.

Toyoda and Keidanren's Vice Chairman Isao Nakauchi asked Hata to set a target to halve the number of economic regulations in five years.

He also called on Hata to map out a plan for scrapping and privatizing government-backed corporations.

Hata responded that the reforms and deregulations are a national problem which must be tackled.

At the day's cabinet meeting, Hata instructed ministers to display leadership in their ministries and agencies in compiling deregulation measures by the end of the month.

KYODO Examines Revised Insurance Law

OW1106055794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0535 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 11 KYODO—A revised insurance law to allow insurance brokers to operate in Japan will require such brokers to have the ability to meet claims arising from the products they sell, finance ministry sources said Saturday (11 June).

Other points in a draft of the revised insurance law are a ban on insurance companies acting as brokers and a requirement that brokers give the best advice possible when signing up customers for insurance products, the sources said.

Insurance brokers sell insurance products on behalf of insurance companies. The brokerage system is widespread in the United States but in Japan insurance companies sell their own products directly.

In bilateral talks on a new trade framework, the US is demanding that insurance brokers be allowed in Japan as the Insurance Council, an advisory panel to the finance minister, proposed two years ago.

Under the revised law, insurance brokers will be licensed through an exam to be conducted by an association of such brokers to be set up under the jurisdiction of the Finance Ministry.

The law will authorize the ministry to inspect brokers and to cancel the license of any broker found guilty of wrongdoing.

Insurance industry officials say introduction of brokers could lead to a major shakeout in the insurance industry, causing insurance firms to compete against each other on the strength of their products rather than on the ability of their sales staffs.

The Insurance Council is slated to hold a hearing Tuesday to obtain the view of foreign insurance companies on how to revise the insurance law.

The Finance Ministry is now working on revising the law and the revision is expected to take place in fiscal 1996 at the earliest.

Keidanren Chief Backs Decontrols on Oil Imports

OW1306104494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0923 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—The head of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) expressed support Monday [13 June] for the planned abolition of a provisional law regulating imports of oil products.

It is natural to abolish the law in line with economic deregulation, Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the elite business club, told a news conference, referring to a plan by the Trade Ministry to abolish the law.

He said deregulation is a major task to be tackled and should be pushed ahead by all means.

Toyoda, who is chairman of Japan's top automaker Toyota Motor Corp., said he was not confident enough on an economic recovery although there were some bright signs.

He said the present value of the Japanese yen is too high in view of Japan's fundamental economic conditions and it should be brought down to an optimum level, or around 110 yen to the dollar.

Panel To Push Gasoline Import Liberalization

OW0806134094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1313 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—A subcommittee of the Petroleum Council, an advisory panel to the international trade and industry minister, will soon propose the liberalization of imports of gasoline, kerosene and gas oil, panel sources said Wednesday [8 June].

The plan is contained in a draft of the subcommittee's interim report, which will be officially finalized on June 20, the sources said.

Under a current oil products import law, only oil refiners can import such oil products. The report, however, will propose the law be scrapped in March 1996, they said.

Instead, the report will call for the government to introduce a new law to liberalize imports of petroleum products with some limitations.

The import liberalization will allow trading firms having no oil refining facilities to import petroleum products to help the government promote deregulation of the petroleum industry.

When the interim report is officially adopted, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy will begin drafting a new law with the aim of it being enacted at an ordinary Diet session next year, they said.

Standards for Public Works Bidders To Be Set

OW1306075894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0744 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—The Construction Ministry will introduce a system to consider technical standards, as well as the bidding price, in choosing successful bidders for public works contracts, ministry officials said Monday [13 June].

They said the new system is to apply on an experimental basis to ministry-controlled public works projects, beginning fiscal 1994, which started April 1.

The present system, which awards a public works contract to the lowest bidder, contributes to bid rigging and unfair price competition, critics say.

The new system gives overall numerical ratings to bidders, including noise and vibration control measures and designing, in addition to the bidding price, the officials said.

The government had earlier used a bid evaluation system based on technical standards and cost in choosing successful bidders for supercomputer supply contracts.

Government Drafts Space Development Program

OW1406105394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—A government panel has drafted an ambitious space development blueprint that foresees manned outposts on the Moon within three decades and calls for sending artists and intellectuals as well as space specialists into space, panel sources said Tuesday [14 June].

The new grand design for Japan's space program will be included in a report to be announced as early as July by the Space Activities Commission's task force responsible for drawing up the nation's long-term space policy outline, the sources said.

The report will illustrate Japan's emboldened posture in space development after the February success in launching the H-2 rocket, the first large rocket built solely with domestic technology, they said. The proposals will be incorporated into the government's space development platform which is expected to be revised for the first time in five years. The report stipulates two groups of targets for space development projects, to be achieved in 15 years and in 30 years, respectively.

The commission has fashioned a 15-year plan for bringing back rocks and ice from Mercury and other small planets and also for geological research on Mars and the Moon using surface rovers. After 30 years, Japan should have completed, with international cooperation if possible, a manned station and an astronomical observatory on the Moon, the report says.

For fostering the necessary technology for such a grandiose project, the report proposes active participation in the U.S.-inspired international space station program, expected to be completed in early 21st century. It also stresses the importance of sending nonexperts like intellectuals and artists to the planned space station to make space activities more familiar to the public.

The report cites probes on the Moon and the use of solar energy in space as principal new space ventures that Japan should embark on. For the lunar probes, observations of the Moon surface by satellites and the bringing of Moon soil back to the earth are envisaged as goals to be achieved within 15 years. Japan should play an active part in any international projects for building Moon stations, it says.

As for the transportation technology demanded by the project, the report calls for development of a spruced-up version of the H-2 rocket that is twice as powerful as the current model within 10 years as a means to launch Japan's own unmanned space shuttles. The space shuttles (Hope, or H-2 orbiting plane) should be augmented for manned missions within 30 years, the report says.

MITI Urges Improvement of 'Techno-Infrastructure'

OW1406093494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0916 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 14 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) on Tuesday [14 June] underscored the importance of Japan beefing up its "techno-infrastructure" in a guideline for research and development of industrial and scientific technology.

The government should "drastically" expand budgetary appropriations for reinforcing Japan's overall technological foundation in line with the guideline, a MITI official told a press conference. The official said the level of a country's techno- infrastructure can be enhanced by improvements in various factors, such as human resources, information, facility construction, fund raising, protection of intellectual property rights and the deregulation of research activity.

Japan's technological standards should be raised through active research activity, not only by specialized organs like MITI institutes but also by private-sector research entities, the official said. The public sector should devote itself to improving the general research environment for private organs and universities, the official said.

The guideline cited nine major industrial and scientific sectors as areas of priority study. Among them are new materials, biotechnology, space technology, medical equipment, clean energy development, new resources and information and communications.

High-Quality Video Phone Expected by 2030

OW1006010994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0020 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 10 KYODO—A high-quality video phone system will be in general use by about 2030 enabling people to talk across the world as if they were conversing face to face, a government report said Friday [10 June].

The system would be capable of two-way high-quality moving image and voice transmission, said the 1994 white paper on communications released by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. The report also predicted that three-dimensional image communications would be possible also by about 2030.

In the industry and business fields, the ministry forecast that producers and consumers would be linked directly through an information network, making the distribution process unnecessary.

The report also predicted that electronic newspapers would make their debuts, diversifying the means of acquiring information and revolutionizing the mass media.

The ministry also said "tele-educational" and "telemedical" systems would spread, bringing about a major change in the field of education, medical treatment and administration. The ministry also prepared a CD-ROM (compact disk-read only memory) version of the white paper, the first of its kind in Japan. The CD-ROM version will be offered for rent by anyone up to a month without charge, starting in July.

Ministry To Cut Base Lending Rate by 0.2 Percent

OW1306055294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0449 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—The Finance Ministry will cut the base rate on lending to government affiliates by 0.20 percentage point to an annual 4.10 percent, effective Friday [17 Jun], ministry said Monday.

The move reflected recent declines in the coupon on long-term government bonds, the officials said.

Given the rate reduction, the ministry will consult with the Construction Ministry to decide on new rates on public loans extended by Housing Loan Corp.

The new base rate, for example, on loans for purchasing newly built housing with floor space of up to 125 square meters, is expected to go down by 0.15 percentage point to an annual 3.90 percent, effective the same day.

The base rates on public housing loans link with those on lending by Finance Ministry's Trust Fund Bureau by using funds of the fiscal investment and loan program.

The current housing loan rates of 4.05 percent were set on April 22 after a round of rate hikes from an all-time low of 3.60 percent marked on Jan. 26.

Hata Urges Lower Domestic Prices

OW1306042694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata called for lower domestic prices Monday [13 Jun], saying the gap between prices in Japan and overseas should be narrowed.

"To make our lives richer, we have to directly address the issue of rectifying the gap between domestic and overseas prices," he told a private advisory panel, urging it to come up with specific recommendations for that purpose.

It is the 13th meeting for the panel, an advisory body on prices to the prime minister.

The panel has 44 members, including economic experts and people in the industrial, labor, and consumer fields chosen to give their opinions on bringing down Japan's prices to international levels.

Sources close to the panel say it remains to be seen what specific measures it will be able to recommend, since policies so far have been unable to tug domestic prices lower despite the appreciation of the yen.

The panel is likely to base its discussions on a report compiled by a research committee that was set up last fall.

Economic Planning Agency Director General Yoshio Terasawa and other cabinet members also attended the meeting.

Liberalization of Investment Trusts Market Urged

OW1006132394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1013 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 10 KYODO—Japan should improve its systems of disclosure and performance assessment for securities investment trusts to protect investors and implement self-responsibility principles, a Finance Ministry study group said Friday [10 June] in a draft report.

The advisory panel to the chief of the ministry's securities bureau discussed the draft report at a meeting Friday and asked for minor changes and the issuance of a final report as early as June 22, a ministry official said.

The official, requesting anonymity, said the draft prepared by the ministry group aims at "investor protection and self-responsibility principles," and points out that the current law enacted in 1951 has failed to "sufficiently" meet changes in market environment.

Disclosure covers details of investment and portfolio strategies and periodic reports on performance to meet complaints that the current system is "insufficient" for investor understanding, the official said.

As for investment performance, the report calls for a "benchmark" to facilitate investor understanding and to spur competition among trust firms that manage funds and among securities firms that sell such funds to investors.

The report also seeks a review of the current law and adoption of "fair-trading" rules to revive the functions of investment trusts that are not at present working, to maintain stability and to vitalize market activities.

The group has been discussing the reform of Japan's investment trust business since last November amid waning investor interest in trusts after the collapse of the "bubble" speculation boom in the late 1980s.

With stock prices tumbling, investors faced the prospect of their stock investment funds falling below their initial values and various problems surfaced such as complaints that brokerage houses had failed to make clear to investors that they could also lose money.

The official said the report makes it clear that the panel remains mixed on many other issues, including the adoption of U.S.- style mutual funds.

Interest Rates on Housing Loans To Be Liberalized

OW1306115594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—The Finance Ministry plans to liberalize interest rates on housing loans charged by commercial banks in July at the earliest, ministry sources said Monday [13 June].

The sources said the decontrol will be incorporated in an economic deregulation package to be worked out by the government at the end of June.

They said banks would be accused of violating the antimonopoly law if they manipulate interest rates on housing loans through behind-the-scenes negotiations.

Fixed and variable interest rates on housing loans, introduced in 1983, have been linked to movements of the long-term prime lending rate charged by commercial banks on loans to creditworthy customers.

The sources said commercial banks are studying the possibility of linking housing loan interest with the short-term prime rate, which reflects interest movements on the money market.

Robust Exports Restore Kyushu Microchip Industry

OW1106065294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0634 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Fukuoka, June 11 KYODO—The computer microchip industry in Kyushu, known as Japan's Silicon Valley, is regaining vitality on the strength of brisk exports, Trade Ministry officials said Saturday [11 June].

According to the Kyushu Regional Bureau of International Trade and Industry, total production of integrated circuits (ICs) in the Kyushu region in April hit a record high of about 670.6 million chips.

April marked the 15th consecutive month of year-to-year rises, said the regional bureau of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

An official of major microchip manufacturer Oki Electric Industry Co.'s semiconductor factory in Miyazaki Prefecture said the record- breaking output reflects "strong exports to the United States due to robust demand for personal computers there."

"A great number of microchip makers are building new facilities to boost production capacities," he said.

In 1992, ic output in Kyushu plunged 11 percent from the year before to 6.36 billion chips.

Production began to show signs of picking up early this year. In February, the first year-on-year rise in about two years was seen.

IC production surged to 668,637,000 chips the following month, the highest level since the 670 million scored in September 1993.

Government Efforts on Economic Recovery Urged

OW1306043194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0318 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—The Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) on Monday [13 Jun] called for the government to take all kinds of measures to put the Japanese economy on a steady recovery track, a trade ministry official said.

Chairman Shoichiro Toyoda and other senior Keidanren executives made the request during a breakfast meeting with high-ranking officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), including Eijiro Hata, the trade minister.

The fiscal 1994 national budget should be enacted at the earliest possible time, while tax reform and deregulation packages should be worked out by the end of this month, Toyoda was quoted as saying by the MITI official.

Yutaka Kume, Keidanren's vice chairman, asked for the corporate tax burden be eased and a landholding tax to be abolished, to spur overall corporate activity in Japan.

Kume, chairman of Nissan Motor Co., also proposed the government support research activity at universities and national institutes as part of efforts to upgrade Japan's industrial infrastructure, the MITI official said.

Hata replied that the ministry will respond to these requests "positively," the official said.

On the worsening of employment prospects for college graduates, Toyoda said Keidenren will urge business corporations to step up new recruitment, especially of female graduates, who are finding it extremely difficult to get jobs.

Mongolia

Foreign Ministry Condemns PRC Nuclear Test

LD1306075894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0704 GMT 13 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 13 Jun—Mongolia, which advocates a ban on nuclear weapons testing, condemns the nuclear explosion conducted by China on the Lobnor test range in the autonomous province of Xingjiang Uighur on 10 June, an official statement by a spokesman of the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Relations says.

This step taken by China, which contradicts international agreements aimed at reaching a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons testing and has a negative effect on this process, arouses concern and regret, the statement declares.

Mongolia hopes that the PRC will not ignore the peace-loving efforts of other nuclear powers and will stop its nuclear testing.

MONTSAME Carries Press Reviews

For 7 Jun

BK0806023294 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1318 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, June 7 (OANA-MONTSAME)—The official newspaper "ARDIYN ERH" informs that at the spring session of the Great State Hural being on here there has been discussed the draft law on pensions and allowances. [sentence as received]

The newspaper provides a telegram sent by J. Moravcik in reply to the Prime Minister of Mongolia P. Jasray with his gratitude for the congratulations in connection with his being appointed to the post of chairman of the Government of Slovakia

It is reported that the Minister of External Relations of Mongolia T. Gombosuren participating in the 11th conference of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries has met in Cairo with the ministers on foreign affairs of Egypt, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia and Singapore and exchanged with them opinions on the issues of bilateral relations and international affairs.

In its permanent heading—"From Dawn to Dusk" the newspaper publishes some information concerning the events within the country. It is informed that the spring sowing campaign is completing in the Selenge Aimag being the main granary of the country, the ceremony of laying down the foundations of the monument to the legend. [sentence as received]

For 10 Jun

BK1006021294 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1207 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, June 9 (OANA-MONTSAME)—The official newspaper "ARDIYN ERH" informs that at the sitting here spring session of the Great State Hural of Mongolia the draft law on pensions and allowances is being discussed. It is informed about the submitting by the government for consideration at the Mongolian parliament of the draft law on internal troops and the draft law on changes and amendments to be made to the law on administrative responsibility.

The newspaper informs in its permanent heading "From Dawn to Dusk" about the latest events and developments within the country. It is reported that this summer Mongolia is likely to be visited by about seven thousand foreign tourists under the schemes of the joint stock "Juulchin" company and the first congress of the Mongolian Democratic Party for restoration.

Chief engineer of the capital city's Power Plant No. 4 G. Yondongombo in his article published in the newspaper is touching upon the issues of concern relating to the regular supply with electricity of residents of the city during the winter season. One of the most sore points existing for a long while in power industry especially in this power plant which should be solved immediately are first of all low quality of coal and, then, the pressing need for carrying out technical restructuring. Specially concern is evoked in connection with the fact that up to now the capital repairs referring to the basic equipment and machinery of the power plant has not been begun yet.

The newspaper carries an interview of its correspondent with the former director general of the Bank for Trade and Development Dugersuren Giyn Suherdene who was attracted as the accused in reference to the scandalous case of dealers and gold in its heading "Frankly Speaking".

As far as the international affairs are concerned the central official organ informs of a visit to Mongolia of a military delegation from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by the Chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Tsoi Gwan [name as received], of the opening of Trade Exhibition of Asia and Pacific region (ASPAT-94) held in Beijing and others.

The organ of the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP)—the newspaper "UNEN" is giving much prominence to the youth forum of members and supporters of the MPRP opened yesterday in the Mongolian capital. This forum is being held under the motto "The Youth and the 21st Century". The newspaper provides an interview of its correspondent with the secretary of the MPRP B. Enhmandah concerning the policy being pursued by the ruling party in relation to the youth. Also speeches by some delegates are being given.

The capital newspaper "ULAANBAATAR" is raising on its first page one of the topics of the capital life—thefts and criminals. The article published in the newspaper is citing concrete facts and showings evidencing the growth rate in the criminality, in particular, thefts committed in the capital of Mongolia. It is only for the Ulaanbaatar city that some two thousand thieves are being registered officially.

The newspaper provides several materials timed to the forthcoming 355th anniversary since the foundation of the Ulaanbaatar city. An old resident of the city D. Damdinsuren is writing in his letter that only a few days are left before the celebrations of the 73th anniversary of the 1921 year's people's revolution. But the location of the "black market" nearby the Central Stadium where the major events relating to the national festivities are usually carried on is to promote impacting and spoiling the environment of the stadium notably garbage everywhere and the lawns trodden. It is high time to undertake on the part of the city administration some measures necessary for correcting such shortcomings.

For 11 Jun

BK1206121494 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1026 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, June 11 (OANA-MONTSAME)—The official Newspaper "ARDIYN ERH" informs that at the siting here spring session of the Great State Hural of Mongolia it has been decided to celebrate on 26 November of the current year the 70th jubilee of the approval of the first constitution of Mongolia and declaration of independence of the republic. The Mongolian parliament is to take a special bill on this point later. Also an organizational committee has been set up to provide preparations and arrangement of the measures for the occasion of the jubilee under the guidance of the chairman of the Great State Hural N. Bagabandi. The session of the parliament started debating the draft law on pension and benefits relating to servicemen at the second reading.

The newspaper informs that at the closed sitting of the Mongolian parliament the legislators have discussed and approved the proposal by the Mongolbank on issuing into circulation of new 5,000 and 10,000 tugrik banknotes and coins of 20, 50, 100, 200 values.

In its traditional heading "From Dawn to Dusk" the newspaper carries some information concerning the latest events and development occurred in the country. It is reported on the forum of young members and supporters of the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the participation of Mongolian sportsmen in the annual international tournament in judo wrestling held in the city Krasnoyarsk Russian Federation.

The newspaper also provides an interview of its correspondent with the first secretary of the Embassy of Denmark to Beijing Ole Odgaar.

The talk was about the assistance being provided to Mongolia by the Danish "Danida" organization. A permanent representative of the Danida would be working at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Mongolia. This Danish organization has granted to Mongolia gratis aid of 1.6 million US dollars to be assigned for the purposes referring to prophylaxis and another 1.5 million US dollars for acquiring fertilizers necessary and combating harmful incests.

In connection with the presupposed submitting for consideration to the Great State Hural of the draft law on state security the newspaper informs about the actions of secret services on state security of India, United States of America, Japan, Germany and Russia.

The newspaper also gives an interview with retired General B. Tsiyregdzen who was at the head of the body on social security of the country during the period from 1984 to 1990.

Concerning the international affairs the newspaper reports about the forthcoming visit to the United States of America of Emperor of Japan Akihito and the official visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Qian Qichen to be paid to the Russian Federation by late June of the year.

The governmental newspaper "DZASGIYN GADZRYN MEUEE" publishes the decree of the government on some measures to be provided for the implementation of the national programme for decreasing the impoverishment of the population. The newspaper reports on the round table talk held here concerning the issues of education. The talk was attended by rector of the state pedagogical university, Doctor Prof. B. Chuluundorj, director of the Technical University N. Tsend, Doctor B. Dabaasuren and other scholars discussing the issues of concern facing in the sphere of education.

North Korea

'Massive' Combined 'War Exercise' Reported

SK1006051394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—The South Korean war-thirsty elements on June 9 staged a massive combined air-ground-sea war exercise against the North in the southern area of East Coast by mobilizing destroyers, Naval planes and Airforce planes of the puppet Army, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The drill for "increasing the capacity of combined operations" shows that the puppets are running [words indistinct] the train of war against the North, taking issue with the fictitious "nuclear issue" of the North.

Kim Yong-sam's Promotion of Sanctions Denounced

SK1106051494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 11 Jun 94

["Stop Acting Recklessly"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—At "a meeting of the National Security Council" on June 8, the traitor Kim Yong-sam, talking about "damage" of the "North's nuclear transparency", said "sanctions of the international community is inevitable" and pressed home the need to "promote sanctions against the North".

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

Kim Yong-sam, who had incited North-South confrontation with the bellicose remarks that "a military reaction will not be ruled out" over the North's "nuclear issue", is now displaying feverish activities for "sanctions against the North" in a bid to harm the fellow countrymen by joining hands with outside forces. This shows that Kim Yong-sam's is a group of traitors who have no regard for the country and the nation, for peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

It is the height of folly for Kim Yong-sam to think he can go scotfree after getting "sanctions" taken against the fellow countrymen through conspiracy with outside forces.

The Kim Yong-sam group's attempt to do harm to the fellow countrymen, dancing to the tune of outside forces without independence, is an act of self-destruction that reminds us of a rabid dog barking into the sky, without any knowledge of its imminent death.

The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique must stop acting rashly, clearly mindful that neither Uncle Sam nor Patriot missiles can protect them.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst warns that the traitor Kim Yong-sam should not babble about "sanctions" like a mad dog barking at the moon, not knowing its doom, but ponder over the consequences that would arise therefrom and stop acting rashly.

SKNDF Reports on 'Crisis' in ROK Economy

SK1206004694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1541 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) [SKNDF] made public a detailed report on the crisis of the South Korean economy which is getting all the more serious amidst apprehensions of war growing because of the intensifying new war provocation moves of the United States and the Kim Yong-sam group and the increasing tensions on the Korean peninsula, according to radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

The export-oriented economy of South Korea, a colony dependent on foreign capital and wriggling in a bog of the crisis of stagnation, has begun to shake to its very foundation due to the instability of the situation, the report said, and went on:

First of all, foreign capital investment in South Korea has dwindled and phenomena of its withdrawal increased as the apprehensions of war heightened.

According to data, foreign businesses took 610 million dollars out of South Korea in March and 490 million dollars in April.

South Korean stock prices dropped sharply. Foreign businesses now are more interested in selling stocks en masse than buying them in the South Korean stock market as the rumor of war spread. They took away 114.2 million dollars in the period from March 1 to 8. Subsequently, the South Korean securities market prices slumped.

The issue of securities has almort come to a suspension as the prices of securities of South Korean businesses rapidly dropped in external securities markets, too, owing to the perceived crisis of war.

An increasing number of flight of capital have been witnessed among the rich since the rumour of "crisis of a war in July or August" by the United States and the Kim Yong-sam belligerent group was set afloat from the beginning of the year.

According to the Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation February 26, the number of those who left South Korea when the situation was tense totalled over 427,300 till February 19, or 107,000 more than in the same period last year. They have secured their fabulous property through the purchase of houses and immovables, depositing, etc. abroad.

Foreign exporters are hesitating to ship export goods to South Korea because of the unstable South Korean situation caused by the rumour of a crisis of war.

In addition, the rich are reluctant to invest and do not deposit money in banks, with the result that colossal funds accounting for 40 percent of the gross national product are kept idle.

Thus, the withdrawal of foreign capital, paralyzed securities market, flight on capital, thriving underground economy and other phenomena caused by the crisis of war are driving the South Korean economy to the worst phase.

Gallucci's Remarks on Sanctions Reported

SK1406031594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] According to reports, the United States openly disclosed recently an attempt to isolate and crush [korip apsalharyonun] our Republic by force.

At the 9 June hearings of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state, made the threatening remarks that the United States could impose military sanctions on our country.

He expressed that the U.S. basic position, that it does not rule out military sanctions against North Korea, had not changed. He also repeatedly babbled [chwechossumnida] that if the UN Security Council failed to pass a resolution on sanctions, independent [tokchajok] sanctions outside the United Nations would be possible. He even openly stated that no DPRK-U.S. talks could take place unless we accepted the International Atomic Energy Agency's unjust demands.

In the 10 June telephone conversation with South Korean puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam, U.S. President Clinton had a conspiracy discussion [mouihago] on imposing multinational sanctions outside the United Nations and disclosed a plan to strengthen the U.S. Forces in South Korea on a large scale, including the early deployment of quick reaction forces.

Meanwhile, the Rimpac-94 joint military exercise, conducted off the coast of Hawaii, a comprehensive combat training, scheduled to last for approximately one week, began on 10 June. In reporting on this, Japan's SANKEI SHIMBUN notes that this exercise is conducted with the United States, Japan, and South Korea posing as a group and confronting the enemy side and that this U.S.-Japan-South Korea joint exercise, the first of its kind, is intended to step up their threat against our country.

The newspaper reveals that U.S. aircraft carriers Independence and Constellation, which had been participating in the Rimpac-94 joint military exercise, would immediately be headed for the waters close to the Korean peninsula after concluding the exercise.

U.S., ROK, Japanese Present 'Nuclear Threat'

SK1406103594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 14 Jun 94

["Total Removal of Nuclear Threat is Vital to Denuclearization of Korean Peninsula"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—If the Korean peninsula is to be denuclearized, the nuclear threat must be totally eliminated from this region, declares NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

Eliminating the nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula means, in essence, removing the U.S. nuclear threat and putting an end to the nuclear armament of Japan and the South Korean puppets, the article says, and continues:

What should be done first of all for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is to terminate the U.S. nuclear threat. The elimination of the U.S. nuclear weapons and the removal of its nuclear threat on the peninsula are the key to its denuclearization.

It is also necessary for the denuclearization of the peninsula to put a period to Japan's nuclear armament.

The nuclear armament of Japan poses a nuclear threat to the DPRK and obstructs the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Putting an end to Japan's nuclear armament is an urgent demand arising in the total removal of the nuclear threat in this region and the denuclearization of the peninsula.

Checking the nuclear arms development by the South Korean puppets is also imperative. In actuality, the joint declaration on denuclearization has been reduced to a dead letter and the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula made impossible by the traitor Kim Yong-sam.

The nuclear threat by the United States, Japan and the South Korean puppets is contrary to the trend of the time.

The nuclear threat must be totally removed and the Korean peninsula be turned nuclear free.

U.S. Solidarity With Korean People Meeting Held

SK1106154194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1525 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—A meeting was held in the United States on June 6 on the occasion of the month of solidarity with the Korean people (June 25-July 27) and the 1st anniversary of the adoption of DPRK-U.S. joint statement (June 1993).

Present there were public figures including representatives of the co-sponsor organizations—the New Jersey Peace Action, the Montclair Committee on Central America, the International League of Women for Peace and Freedom, the Penny Row Hammer Branch Organization of the New Jersey Rainbow Federation, the Single Peace Committee, the Montclair UN-U.S. branch organization and the South Mountain Peace Action. The deputy chief of the DPRK mission in the United Nations was invited.

Kim Hyo-sin, vice-chairman of the Federation of Churches of South Koreans in his speech at the meeting exposed the injustice of the U.S. policy towards Korea and the partiality of the International Atomic Energy Agency and demanded that the United States stop pressure and blackmail against the DPRK and improve its relations with the latter.

Paul Ahuja, representative of the International Action Center, said in his speech that the U.S. possessed of a large quantity of nuclear weapons and plutonium is threatening North Korea with "sanctions," saying it might have "nuclear weapons."

He said [words indistinct] that U.S. Forces are present in South Korea "to defend freedom, democracy and peace" is a sheer lie. He stressed that a peace agreement must be signed between the DPRK and the U.S. and Korea must be reunified in a peaceful way.

He called upon the participants to sign the signature paper supporting "10-point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country" advanced by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Susan Bailey, co-chairman of the U.S. Get Out of Korea Committee said that the United States is threatening North Korea over the "nuclear issue" in order to stifle its socialist system.

She calls for solidarity with the Korean people in the struggle for defending the independence of their country and socialism.

The participants signed the paper supporting the 10-point programme.

President Kim Il-song Receives American Guest

SK0906215194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1523 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 9 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received visiting Selig Harrison, senior associate of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in the United States.

First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Kang Sok-chu was on hand.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guest in a cordial atmosphere.

He gave a luncheon for the guest.

Carnegie Official Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il

SK0906215494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 9 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Selig Harrison, senior associate of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in the United States, on a visit to Korea.

It was handed to an official concerned.

Japan's Joining in Sanctions Would Be 'War'

SK1106130894 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1220 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Commentary by Yun Pyong-son: "Downright Expression of Anti-Republic Hostile Policy"]

[Text] The Japanese authorities' suppression of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan [Chongnyon] is getting all the more vicious.

As has been already reported, the Japanese authorities recently committed an outrage by sending several hundred policemen, raiding the Kyoto prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon, and searching many places including houses of Chongnyon functionaries on the groundless pretext of a violation of the national land utilization law. The recent raid and search commotion, which followed its crackdown on the Osaka prefectural organization of Chongnyon in April, is a deliberate act to destroy the Chongnyon organization and block its patriotic activities and is an unpardonable criminal act.

As is known, Koreans in Japan did not go to Japan on their own initiative. They are the ones who were drafted by the Japanese imperialists who colonialized Korea or their offspring. The Chongnyon is a dignified organization of overseas citizens of our Republic which launches the righteous activities of safeguarding the democratic national rights of Koreans in Japan and promoting friendly relations with the Japanese people. Accordingly, the Japanese authorities should protect them and value their rights, instead of intensifying suppression of the Chongnyon.

Nonetheless, the Japanese authorities raided Chongnyon organizations and houses of Chongnyon functionaries, and searched them in broad daylight by fabricating groundless excuses. This is an extension line of the policy of obliterating Chongnyon, an expression of their undisguised hostile policy towards us and Chongnyon, and a grave challenge to them.

The Japanese authorities are these days becoming all the more malicious in their attempt to stifle us over our so-called nuclear issue while making haste with so-called sanctions and adopting emergency legislature. While openly babbling about the dispatch of the Self-Defense Armed Forces to the front line of South Korea in case of emergency, the Japanese authorities mobilized its armed forces to a southeast area adjacent to the Korean peninsula in accordance with a new military strategy.

Timed to coincide with this, their provocative act committed against the Kyoto prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon was not a mere mistake as they have insisted. This is part of the anti-Republic hostile policy which has been stepped up maliciously through collusion and collaboration with the United States and the South Korean puppets, and a deliberate and premeditated act designed by the Japanese authorities. The Japanese authorities have launched into a heinous anti-Chongnyon campaign whenever the anti-Republic moves of the United States and the South Korean puppets got hysterical. This is a clear proof of it.

Regarding the suppression of Chongnyon and the hostile policy toward our Republic, the present Japanese authorities are more arrogant and tyrannical than their predecessors. What they pursue is realizing the past dream of becoming a colonial dominator by involving itself in another war of aggression on Korea by following the United States' emergency scenario. However, this is nothing but an anachronistic wild dream and only reveals their unchangeable aggressive nature.

The DPRK Foreign Ministry clearly declared that if Japan should take the lead or be inveigled or join force in any sanctions against us, we would regard it as a declaration of war, and Japan would be unable to evade a deserving punishment for it.

We never use empty words. Japan occupied our country for almost half a century, committing never-to-be-condoned crimes to our nation, and has not atoned for its past criminal acts up to now. Japan must ponder the consequences to be entailed by its anti-DPRK, anti-Chongnyon campaign and act with discretion.

The Japanese authorities should immediately stop their hostile policy toward our Republic and their suppression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan and apologize for the recent case and sternly punish the chief culprits. If the Japanese authorities continue to step up their suppression of Chongnyon, joining the anti-Republic commotion of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, they will have to pay a dear price for it.

'Craftiness', 'Effrontery' Alleged

SK1106052494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 11 Jun 94

["Don't Run Riot"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—Japanese Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, far from making an official apology for the police raid on the Kyoto Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and search of houses of Chongnyon officials and other places, blared that "there was nothing wrong in the precedures of the search."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says that this revealed once again the craftiness and effrontery peculiar to Japan.

Recalling that a situation resembling that on the eve of the past Korean war has been created in Japan now, the analyst says:

The Japanese reactionaries should know clearly what a country the DPRK is, what a people the Koreans are and how great our might is. And they must not doubt the will of our people who mean what they say.

Should Japan join in "sanctions" against us, whether she takes the van or is inveigled into it, we will regard it as a declaration of war and then she will not be able to evade a deserved punishment. This warning is anything but an empty word. The Japanese authorities should ponder over the lot in which Japan would find itself, if this warning of ours is carried into practice.

The Japanese reactionaries must not run riot but promptly stop their hostile policy against the DPRK and the repression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan. This advice is quite beneficial to Japan.

Japan's 'Suppression' of Chongnyon Protested

'Mass Rally' Held in Pyongyang

SK1406105894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—Working people of various strata in Pyongyang held a mass rally today and bitterly denounced the Japanese reactionaries' reckless suppression of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Koreans in Japan as a gross infringement upon the dignity and sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In his speech, Yu Ho-chun, director of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, said: The recent fascist suppression and persecution of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan by the Japanese reactionaries are hostile acts most vicious ever since the inauguration of Chongnyon. In view of their look and danger the acts remind us of the eve of the Korean war when the Japanese reactionaries suppressed the Federation of Koreans in Japan (Choyon) and Japan-resident Koreans.

Noting that the suppression was not an accidental incident, the speaker said:

The Japanese reactionaries are now openly scheming "constitutional amendment," "emergency legislative arrangements" and "measures for domestic security" in a bid to stage a military comeback to Korea and the rest of Asia, while serving the U.S. imperialists and the international reactionary forces as a shock brigade in their frantic moves to isolate and stifle the DPRK under the pretext of its fictitious "nuclear issue."

Branding the suppression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan by the Japanese reactionaries as a heinous crime which cannot be justified with anything, Yu Ho-chun said:

We cannot remain an onlooker to the criminal acts of the Japanese authorities, who have committed an unheard-of suppression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan, availing themselves of the anti-DPRK moves of the United States and the South Korean puppets. We will always keep tabs on them.

The Japanese authorities must act with discretion, pondering over all the consequences to be entailed by their antagonism against and harsh suppression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan and promptly stop the anti-DPRK, anti-Chongnyon moves.

Speeches were made also by Vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Aiding Overseas Compatriots Kim Tong-sop, permanent member of the Korea-Japan Friendship Association Paek Pong-kyu, a faculty dean of the Korean University of Chongnyon Ku Tae-sok and Korea-resident Japanese woman Sin Chong-ho.

They demanded that the Japanese reactionaries immediately stop the suppression of Chongnyon, apologize for it, liquidate the past doings of aggression and plunder against the Korean people and make an adequate compensation, clearly mindful that the suppression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan is a foolish act of wringing their own necks.

A letter of protest to the Japanese Government was adopted at the rally.

It says that though the Japanese authorities intend to attain their sinister political purpose without difficulty by launching the repressive campaign against Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan at a time when the international reactionaries are intensifying their moves to take "sanctions" against the DPRK, this is a mistake.

The letter says:

The Japanese authorities must stop acting rashly and know that antagonism against the DPRK and the suppression of Chongnyon will bring nothing favorable to them.

Strong is the will and resolution of the Korean people at home and in Japan, who hold the sovereignty and dignity of the nation dearer than their lives.

We strongly demand that the Japanese authorities apologize for the unjustifiable suppression of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan, promise to refrain from such acts and take steps to sternly punish the masterminds of the recent cases.

We also state that it is a good option for the Japanese authorities not to join the international reactionaries in their reckless moves to take "sanctions" against the DPRK in a bid to stifle it.

We will never tolerate the infringement on the national dignity and democratic national rights of Chongnyon, an organization of overseas citizens of the DPRK, and Koreans in Japan but decisively counter it to the end.

Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Chung-nin and Vice-premier of the Administration Council Chang Chol were present at the rally.

Japanese Organizations Protest

SK1106213594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1533 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The high-handed Japanese police crackdown upon organizations of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) has been protested unremittingly by Chongnyon organizations and Korean residents across Japan and Japanese political party and organizations, the Tokyo-based Korean news service reported.

Officials and Korean residents under the Kyoto prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon went to the prefectural police on June 8 to express their resentment at the authorities' refusal to make an apology. They strongly urged the police to make an apology in a responsible manner and show sincere attitude and action.

The Japan Social-democratic Party [JSDP] has conducted positive activities to investigate the truth behind the police crackdown on the Kyoto prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon and lodge a strong protest with it.

It decided at the Tuesday meeting of its leading officials and at the Wednesday general meeting of its Dietmen to send a fact-finding team to Kyoto and actively call the authorities to account for it at the Diet.

Inquiries were made at the judicial affairs committee of the Japanese Diet on June 7 by Tomio Sakagami and, on June 8, at the Budget Committee by Sekisuke Nakanishi and at the Judicial Affairs Committee by Tatsukuni Komori, accusing the authorities of their unjust and illegal search.

The JSDP Nagano prefectural headquarters, prefectural government centre and prefectural people's council, in joint name, and the chief of the JSDP Miyagi prefectural headquarters made public protest statements and sent them to the Kyoto prefectural police authorities. The 67th regular meeting of the Fukuoka prefectural Teachers' Union adopted a special resolution, and decided that all its branch organizations should take an emergency act of sending protest telegrams to the prime minister and the chief of the Kyoto prefectural police headquarters.

Korean residents under Higashiosaka and Minamiosaka branches of the Chongnyon Osaka prefectural headquarters staged protests against the Osaka prefectural police headquarters and the Higashi police station. Delegates of the Federation of Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan and the League of Korean Youth in Japan joined in the struggle, encouraging compatriots in Osaka prefecture.

The chairman of the Higashiosaka Council for Japan-Korea Friendship, a representative of the Nishigobe Society for the Study of Korean Affairs and delegates of the Amagasaki Society for the Study of Japanese-Korean affairs in their respective protest messages published in front of the Osaka prefectural police headquarters condemned the unjustifiable police search and encouraged Korean residents.

Pomminnyon Releases Statement

SK1306055594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0521 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 13 (KCNA)—The North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) released a statement on June 12.

It warns:

"If the Japanese authorities continue their acts of deliberately aggravating the situation, taking advantage of the vicious pressure campaign of the United States and the South Korean authorities against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in disregard of the demand of our nation, they will be held responsible for the consequences arising therefrom."

"The raid on the Kyoto prefectural headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) was a fascist outrage against Koreans overseas and an unpardonable political suppression," the statement says, and goes on:

"We cannot but call in question the fact that all the hostile acts persistently committed by the Japanese authorities against Chongnyon are timed to coincide with the anti-DPRK campaign of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

"The Koreans residing in Japan are mostly victims who were taken there as 'labor draftees' for the Japanese imperialists' war of aggression on the continent and forced to toils, undergoing all manner of national humiliation and harsh maltreatment in the past, and their descendants.

"Nevertheless, the Japanese authorities, far from repenting of this and making compensations, are repeating the past crimes today. This naturally arouses the resentment of the whole nation.

"The North side headquarters of Pomminnyon can hardly repress indignation at the surprise raid on and search of Chongnyon organisations by the Japanese police and strongly urge the Japanese authorities to immediately stop such criminal suppression and apologize for it and punish those responsible for it."

Japanese 'Design' 'To Dominate Asia' Alleged

SK1406101294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 14 Jun 94

["NODONG SINMUN on Reinvasion Moves of Japanese Militarism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The Japanese reactionaries are now zealously joining the United States in its policy of stifling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, fully revealing the wild ambition of revived militarism for reinvasion, says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The Japanese reactionaries are going ahead with legislative arrangements to quickly send "Self-Defense Forces" to the Korean peninsula in "the event of contingency," declaring that they will take an active part in "collective security measures" in case "sanctions" were taken against the DPRK, the analyst says, and continues:

They are crying over the DPRK's "nuclear threat" so hysterically for the purpose of converting Japan into a military power equipped with nuclear weapons under that pretext and realising with the backing of the United States the old dream of "the greater east Asia coprosperity sphere" which Japan failed to do in the past.

To dominate Asia is the invariable design of the Japanese reactionaries. It is to this end that they are now making haste with the conversion of Japan into a military power and her nuclear armament. They intend to divert the worldwide denunciation elsewhere from Japan and justify their moves to turn Japan into a military power armed with nuclear weapons by widely spreading the rumor about the DPRK's "nuclear threat."

They are also scheming to stage a comeback to Korea and other Asian nations by actively partaking of the aggressive military actions of the United States.

The peace and security of Northeast Asia and the Asian-Pacific region are gravely threatened by Japan.

Japanese Liberal Democratic Party Group Arrives

SK1406152994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Japan Liberal Democratic Party headed by Taku Yamasaki, deputy secretary general of the party and member of the House of Representatives, arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials concerned.

Chuche Idea Seminar Held in Japan

SK0306112294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 [date as received] (KNS-KCNA)—A seminar on the chuche idea was held recently in Sanda, Hyogo prefecture, under the co-sponsorship of the societies for the study of Kim Chong-il's works in Kansai district, Japan.

Lectures on the subjects "On ideological and theoretical achievements of secretary Kim Chong-il" and "Chuche-based view of life" were given at the seminar.

Masaji Ie, chief advisor to the Japan Liaison Council of Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's Works and professor at the Kobe University of Foreign Studies, elaborated on the great ideological and theoretical achievements of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in developing in depth the immortal chuche idea founded by the respected leader President Kim Il-song.

Jiang Zemin's Interview on Nuclear Issue Cited

SK1106052094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 11 Jun 94

["Chinese President Jiang Zemin Says China Is Not in Favor of Imposing Sanctions"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and president of the People's Republic of China, clarified China's stand regarding the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula in his interview with a chief commentator of the Japan Broadcasting Corporation in Zhongnanhai on June 10.

He said:

"China is not in favor of imposing sanctions because that is useless for the settlement of the problem. On the contrary, it would aggravate the escalation of the situation and lead to a serious consequence that all parties concerned do not want to see.

"It is my view that persevering in dialogue and consultations is an effective and fundamental way to solve the problem".

"We urge all parties concerned to exercise restraint and act with caution," he said, and added: "The goal for the settlement of the issue is finally to safeguard peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and realize denuclearization.

"No matter what temporary difficulties may appear, it is possible to find a proper solution to this problem as long as these two major objectives are not departed from."

Noting that the door for negotiation is not completely closed and that there still exist possibilities of holding dialogue, he urged all parties concerned to take positive measures so as to avoid acceleration of the crisis.

XINHUA Report on Chinese Nuclear Test Cited

SK1106040094 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0312 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] According to a report from XINHUA News Agency, China conducted an underground nuclear test on the morning of 10 June. While making an announcement on this, the spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that China will completely ban and thoroughly destroy nuclear weapons, and that in this connection, it consistently supports the realization of a comprehensive nuclear test ban.

He said that stemming from this fundamental position, China has been manifesting great self-restraint from the beginning in conducting nuclear tests, and that the number of nuclear tests conducted by China is very limited.

He said that China completely respects and understands the position and worry of many nonnuclear countries in connection with the issue of nuclear tests. The spokesman said that currently China is actively taking part in the negotiations on the comprehensive test ban treaty, and through this kind of negotiations, China supports the conclusion of such a treaty before 1996. He said that such a treaty must be a measure for a complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons.

He said that China demands that other countries that possess nuclear weapons must give up their policy on restraining nuclear weapons and clearly promise the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. The spokesman said that to quickly realize this ultimate goal, China is willing to continue to persistently make efforts with the international community.

PRC Trade Union Leader Receives DPRK Counterpart

SK1006035294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Comrade Wei Jianxing, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat and president of All-China Federation of Trade Unions, on 7 June met with a delegation of the Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, which is visiting China, led by Chu Song-il, chairman of the federation.

During the meeting, Comrade Wei Jianxing stressed that the blood-tied China-DPRK friendship is a friendship that has overcome the trials of history.

Delegations Leave for Russia, PRC 9 Jun

SK0906215694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 9 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 9 (KCNA)—A Korean railway delegation led by the minister of railways, Pak Yong-sok, to attend the 22nd ministerial meeting of the organization of railways cooperation slated in Russia and a delegation of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Secretary Kim Un- ki to visit China left here today.

Military Delegation Returns From PRC 13 Jun

SK1406044094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—The DPRK military delegation headed by Choe Kwang, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army, returned home Monday after visiting China.

That day Liu Huaqing, member of the standing committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, met the Korean military delegation.

Liu Huaqing said that China and the DPRK are the closest neighbours whose mountains adjoin each other and which have common rivers and the friendly relations between the two countries with a historical tradition have reached a higher phase and been consolidated today.

"The people of China treasure Sino-Korean friendship," Liu said, "and will pass it on from generation to generation."

President Kim Il-song Receives Cuban Guest

SK0306113894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 3 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received Cuban woman lawyer Candelaria Rodriguez on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion were Chairman Chong Chun-ki and Vice- Chairperson Chon Yon-ok of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and Cuban Ambassador to Korea Jose Ramon Rodriguez Varona.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guest in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He gave a luncheon for her.

Cuban Guest Delivers Gift for Kim Chong-il

SK0306114194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 3 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Cuban woman lawyer Candelaria Rodriguez on a visit to Korea.

The gift was conveyed to an official concerned by Candelaria Rodriguez.

Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee Meets

SK1006053294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0514 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—The Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee met in Pyongyang on June 9.

Present at the meeting were Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the State Education Commission, who is the chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee, and officials concerned.

Cuban Ambassador to Korea Jose Ramon Rodriguez Varona and his embassy officials were present on invitation.

The meeting discussed questions of commemorating the centenary of the death of Jose Marti, the national hero of the Cuban people.

Cuba Calls For Negotiated Solution

SK1006102194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—A solidarity letter came from Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina Gonzalez hoping that the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula will be resolved peacefully through negotiations, not by pressure and strong-arm action.

Charging that the United States of America is getting overheated in further arming South Korea, while increasing international pressure on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he reaffirmed the opinion that a reasonable solution in face of the explosive situation of the Korean peninsula is not a military option but negotiation.

He, on behalf of the Cuban Government and people, expressed the belief that the strain will surely be eased and the most reasonable way be opened for the DPRK Government and people in the solution to the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

Military Group, Japanese Farmers Arrive

SK0806054794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 8 (KCNA)—A Nigerian military delegation led by Major General R.M. Kupolati and a delegation of the Japan-Korea Friendship Exchange Association of Agricultural Farmers led by Masao Yoshida, former social-democratic member of the House of Representatives of Japan and chairman of the association, arrived here Tuesday by air.

Philippine President Remarks on Nuclear Issue

SK1006053194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 10 Jun 94

["'actions Against North Korea Could Bring the Korean Peninsula Down the Road to Conflict': Philippine President"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—Philippine President Fidel Ramos at his weekly press conference on June 8 called for the avoidance of actions against North Korea that might provoke a confrontation, which he said in turn could bring the region down the road to conflict, according to a XINHUA report.

The president reiterated the Philippine policy on North Korea's "nuclear issue" that has been to urge patient consultation and creative diplomacy in the search for a solution.

He said "the Philippines hope that a peaceful solution could still be found to resolve the issue."

SRV 'High-Level' Military Delegation Arrives

SK1406152694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA)—A high-level military delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam arrived here by air today.

The delegation led by General Doan Khue, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and minister of national defence, consists of Lt. Gen. Phan Thu, vice-minister of national defence; Lt. Gen. Le Hai, deputy head of the General Political Department of the Vietnam People's Army; Lt. Gen. Tran Hanh, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army, and other members.

It was met at the airport by O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces; Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army Kim Kwang-chin; Col. Gen. Pak Chae-kyong; Lt. Gen. Pak Sung-won and other generals and officers of the Korean People's Army.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Korea Duong Chinh Thuc was also present there to meet the delegation.

Kim Yong-nam Meets Leaders From Iran, India

SK1006045194 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister, who was in Egypt, met with the Iranian foreign minister, the Guinean minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, the Tanzanian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, and the Indian state minister of external affairs on 2 and 3 June.

On these occasions, the foreign minister extended greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma, Indian Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, Iranian Islam leader Sayed 'Ali Khamene'i, Iranian President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Guinean President Lansana Conte, and Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

The foreign ministers expressed deep appreciation for this and asked our country's foreign minister to extend greetings from the head of state and government of each country to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. Conversations took place in a friendly atmosphere.

The foreign minister also met with the minister of foreign relations.

Previously, on 1 June, the foreign minister met with Indonesian President Suharto's adviser in charge of the Nonaligned Movement and talked with him.

Laotian Trade Union Delegation Leaves 6 Jun

SK1006045294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] A Laotian Trade Union delegation led by Chairman (Kampang Pilabong) left by plane on 6 June.

Declaration Supported by Canadian Party

SK0306214094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 3 (KCNA)—The National Committee of the Quebec Communist Party of Canada recently adopted a resolution supporting the Pyongyang declaration "Let us defend and advance the cause of socialism."

The resolution denounced the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities' provocative acts of constantly threatening peace on the Korean peninsula.

Condemning the large-scale campaign against the DPRK over its "nuclear issue" as a move to destabilize the socialist Korea, the resolution expressed solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for defence of socialism.

Pyongyang Papers Observe Day of Portugal

SK1006103994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 10 Jun 94

["Day of Portugal Observed"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today observe the day of Portugal.

The Korean people wish the Portuguese people greater achievements in their endeavors for the prosperity and development of the country, MINJU CHOSON in a signed article says, and goes on:

The Korean and Portuguese peoples have established bonds of friendship. The friendly and cooperative relations have grown stronger and developed after the two countries established diplomatic ties at ambassadorial level in April 1975.

The Korean people believe that the relations between the two peoples will develop still further in the future, too, on the basis of the idea of independence, peace and friendship.

WPK Secretary Meets With Mongolian Delegation

SK0306010894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1541 GMT 2 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 2 (KCNA)—Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Hwang Chang-yop today met and had a friendly conversation with a delegation of the Coordinating Council of the Federation of Peace and Friendship Organisation of Mongolia and the Mongolia-Korea Friendship Association led by General Secretary of the Federation D. Bilegt Onna visit to Korea.

D. Bilegt said that he was deeply moved to see achievements made by the Korean people under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. He laid stress on expanding and developing Mongolia-Korea friendship.

Minister Sends Message to Togolese Counterpart

SK0306052094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 3 (KCNA)—Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Boumber Alassounouma upon his appointment as minister of foreign affairs and cooperation of the Republic of Togo.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will continue to develop favorably, the message wished the Togolese minister success in his responsible work.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Officials

SK0406044994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 4 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to Sin Sung-pom of the Pangyo County Security Department in Kangwon Province and his family and Han Sun-pung, an official of the party committee of the State Commission of Science and Technology, and his wife who had done good things for the socialist countryside and to the medical workers of the Kowon coal mine hospital who had greatly contributed to the promotion of the health of workers.

Comrade Kim Chong-il also sent thanks to the scientists and technicians in Kanggye who had been successful in the researches into animal feed and to residents who had introduced the success to effect innovation in meat production.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Officials

SK0806045794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 8 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 8 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to Pak Pong-son, doctor of the Moxa Cautery Department of the General Hospital of Koryo Medicine, Hong Sok-tae, dean of the University of Construction and Building Materials, So Song-chol, Kim Kwang-chol and Cho Yong-ho, designers of the State Construction Commission, Choe Haeng-ung, director of the Nungna company and his family and Kim Kon-il of the city management office in Sukchon County, South Pyongan Province, who had done good things for the society and collective.

The communist traits of doing good things for the society and collective have been fully displayed among the citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which is a social tone.

Kim Chong-il Works Studied in Various Countries

SK1206101694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803 GMT 12 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 12 (KCNA)—A seminar on the work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il "Our Socialism Centred on the Masses Shall Not Perish" was held by the Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, association for the study of the chuche idea.

The speakers said that the advantages and vitality of Korean-style peculiar socialism centred on the popular masses have been fully displayed in all fields and that the socialist system of Korea is a genuine popular one which provides the masses of the people with an independent and creative life.

A reading session of this work was held by the Zairean Society for the Study of Kim Chong-il's Works.

The speaker said Korean-style socialism is a socialism centred on the popular masses where they are the masters of everything and everything serves them. They noted that since the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has always adhered to the independent stand, it has been able to defend the national dignity and successfully carry on the cause of socialism in any storm and stress.

A seminar on the work "Abuses of Socialism Are Intolerable" took place at the department of the state in charge of irrigation of the Ministry of Agriculture of Mozambique.

The speakers said the work is a great textbook of revolution that gives a scientific exposition of the unavoidableness of the downfall of imperialism and the inevitability of the triumph of socialism.

Noting that though the imperialists are trying to destroy Korean socialism, it is a daydream, they stressed that nobody can match the Korean people united closely around their leader and their party.

Kim Chong-il's Leadership in WPK Commemorated

SK1306111894 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0400 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Unattributed talk marking the 30th anniversary of Kim Chong-il's work at the Workers' Party of Korea, WPK: "The Dear Leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is Our Destiny and the Fatherland's Destiny"]

[Text] The current times, when an acute struggle between socialism and imperialism, and progress and reaction is being waged, are seriously raising the question of the destiny of the popular masses, the country, and the nation in an international point of view.

In countries where socialism has been frustrated due to the antirevolutionary maneuvers of the imperialists and reactionaries, and where national sovereignties have been infringed upon, the popular masses are hovering between life and death, and the destinies of the countries and the nations are being miserably trampled upon.

Solving the question of the destiny of the popular masses, the country, and the nation is one of the historic tasks of the progressive people shrewdly presented by the last decade of the 20th century. The significant question put forth by the current times has been most brilliantly solved in our country in which the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is being upheld high at the top of the party and revolution.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our people are singing the song "Without Comrade Kim Chong-il, the Fatherland Does Not Exist." I like the song. As the song's lyrics state: Without Comrade Kim Chong-il, you comrades and the socialist fatherland do not exist. It is his destiny, as well as the destiny of you comrades and the fatherland.

The great leader [widaehan suryong] of the working class is the one who plays the decisive role of pioneering the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation. The destiny of the people, the country, and the nation is pioneered, protected, and brilliantly elucidated by the leader [suryong].

The great leader of the working class analyzes and integrates the independent demands and interests of the popular masses to found the guidance ideology of revolution and leads the activities of the popular masses to elevate the ideology in a unified manner. He makes the popular masses into a self-defending main force of history and revolution by making them conscious and organized, and enables them to pioneer a bright future for themselves, their descendants, the fatherland and nation as the true masters of their destinies.

The fact that the destiny of the people and the fatherland is brilliantly pioneered and blossomed only under the wise leadership of the leader [suryong] is a lofty truth proven by our revolutionary practices. Our people have become the proudest and most dignified people by upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the fore of revolution. Our fatherland is shining brilliantly in the whole world as a strong independent, self-reliant, and self-defending socialist country.

The struggle to pioneer and elucidate the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation is a long-term struggle to be continued generation after generation. To win or lose the historic struggle depends on whether or not the leader [suryong], who first pioneered the revolutionary road, and the people's true leader [chidoja], who is endlessly loyal to the cause, are upheld at the top of the party and revolution.

To the people, the greatest misfortune is having a wrong leader [chidoja], and the greatest fortune is having the leadership of a wise leader [suryong].

Shouldering the destiny of the fatherland and the nation all by himself, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great leader [widaehan yongdoja] who leads to victory the chuche revolutionary cause pioneered by the respected and beloved leader [suryong], and a benevolent father [chaaeroun oboi] who devotes his everything for the people. Thanks to the dear comrade leader, our people have a rewarding life today and a promising future tomorrow, as well as the glory and bright future of chuche-based Korea.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a genius of ideological theory who plainly enlightens the road of elucidating the destiny of our people and fatherland with extraordinary wisdom. The destiny of the people, the country, and the nation can only be pioneered and elucidated by a correct ideological theory. As a boat without a compass cannot correctly sail to its destination, the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation cannot be successfully pioneered without the guidance of a revolutionary ideological theory.

The only guidance for pioneering the destiny of the popular masses is the immortal chuche idea. Chuche idea, which is based on the philosophical principle that the master of one's destiny is oneself, and the power of pioneering one's destiny also lies in oneself, elucidates the most correct road for pioneering the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation. The dear comrade leader has formalized the respected and beloved leader's revolutionary ideology into an integrated system of chuche-based ideology, theory, and methods, and further deepened and developed the chuche idea in conformity with the demands of the current times and the development of revolution.

Developing and completing the great revolutionary theory of pioneering and elucidating the destiny of the popular masses by further enriching the chuche idea with new theories and contents, and deepening the idea on a full scope is the dear comrade leader's immortal historic achievement accumulated during pioneering and elucidating the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great leader [widaehan yongdoja] who leads the struggle to elucidate the destiny of our people and fatherland to victory.

The struggle to pioneer and elucidate the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation is propelled by the spontaneous function and role of the main force of revolution. The main force of revolution, which is a united body of the leader [suryong], the party, and the masses, is the decisive force and the one directly in charge of pioneering the destiny of the people, the country, and the nation. Therefore, the leadership of the people's leader [chidoja] is significantly reflected by the way he gathers the main force of revolution and the way he enhances its role.

The leadership of the dear comrade leader, who leads the struggle to elucidate the destiny of our people and fatherland to victory, is wise because throughout the times, he has strengthened the main force of revolution and taken the question of enhancing the role of the main force as the fundamental task.

The dear comrade leader has strengthened and developed our party into an invincible and ever-victorious chuche-type revolutionary party, and firmly consolidated all the people around the party, thus making them into a powerful force of our revolution. He has also extraordinarily enhanced the role of the main force of our revolution by tightly combining the leadership of the party with the line of revolutionary masses and giving precedence to the human reform work and political work.

Because the party and the popular masses have firmly united as one to become the main force of revolution and the role of the main force has been enhanced, the great historic transformation of nature and society has been achieved, the dignity and honor of our fatherland and people have been proudly displayed, and our people's destiny has become more brilliant. This is another special historic achievement of the dear comrade leader for our party and revolution.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a benevolent father [chaaeroun oboi] who endlessly cares about and loves the people, and devotes his everything for the people. The destiny of the people, the country, and the nation can only be blossomed in the bosom of a leader [yongdoja] who possesses the extraordinary wisdom of ideological theory and outstanding leadership, as well as an endlessly lofty virtue.

A lofty virtue of the people's leader [chidoja] eliminates the slightest shadow from the work and life of every member of society. It is also a fountain enabling the people to absolutely trust and follow the leader [yongdoja], wholly entrust their destiny to the bosom of the leader [yongdoja], and lead a rewarding life.

The dear comrade leader bears the highest loyalty toward the great leader, embraces revolutionary comrades and people of all walks of life in his benevolent bosom, and warmly takes care of their work and life. Thanks to the great labor and warm love of the dear comrade leader, who always involves himself with the people, shares joy and sorrow with them, and generously gives away everything for the people's happiness, the destiny of our people and fatherland is shining more brilliantly today. That is why all our people are upholding the dear comrade leader as the benevolent father and wholly entrusting their destinies and future to the comrade leader.

Indeed, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is the symbol of victory of our fatherland and nation, and happiness and brilliant future of all our people. Upholding the dear comrade leader, who is matchless in terms of ideological and theoretical wisdom, leadership, and virtue and who is the great man of great men, is a rare fortune of our people and honor of the generation.

The future of our people and the socialist fatherland is even brighter upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is our destiny and the destiny of chuche-based socialist fatherland, high at the top of the party and revolution.

'Immortal Feats' Performed

SK1106110394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 11 Jun 94

["Great Feats of WPK in Achieving its Steel-like Unity and Cohesion"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—The 30 years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il assumed leadership over the party work is a brilliant history of an illustrious leader who has performed immortal feats in the efforts to increase the might of the singlehearted unity of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] in every way, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today on the lapse of 30 years since the dear leader began to lead the party.

It quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Our party achieved solid unity and cohesion a long time ago. Not resting content with this, however, it has continued to work hard to strengthen the single-hearted unity of the whole party around the leader, so that it maintains unbreakable unity and cohesion, without any vacillation even in the present complex situation."

Referring to immortal feats performed by the dear leader in the struggle to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the WPK in every way, the article notes:

Of primary importance in his great leadership feats is that he has made it possible to firmly defend the tradition of the proud singlehearted unity and glorify it through generations.

From the first days of his leadership over the chuche cause of building the party he has subordinated all the party work and activities entirely to the work for firmly defending and exalting the tradition of singlehearted unity established by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song when he started the Korean revolution.

Today when many parties of the world which had boasted of their long history have collapsed, not defending the tradition of unity, the WPK is firmly defending the tradition of singlehearted unity established in the initial period of the revolution. Herein lies the distinguished greatness and wise leadership of the dear leader.

What holds an important place in his great leadership feats is that he put forward the slogan of modelling the whole party on the chuche idea and has victoriously organized and led the struggle for its realisation, thus turning the WPK into an unbreakable integrated whole of one ideology and purpose. Thus, the organisational and ideological might of the WPK has increased immensely and a new change has taken place in the ideological and moral traits of the party members.

Today the entire party members think and act in accordance with the party's ideology and purpose at any time and in any place with the firm stand and view that they know nothing but the chuche idea, the revolutionary idea of the party.

What holds a brilliant place in his immortal leadership feats is also that he has made the whole party an entity of loyalty and filial piety, which is pervaded by unfailing loyalty to the party and the leader, with his great benevolent politics.

Regarding the idea of "believing in the people as in heaven" as his maxim from his early years, he always firmly believes in his revolutionary soldiers and people and spares nothing for them.

What holds a brilliant place also in his great leadership feats is that he has made sure that the work for strengthening the unity and cohesion of the party was conducted in close combination with the struggle to effect a great upswing in all domains of the revolution and construction and, thus, its indestructible vitality was demonstrated powerfully in practice.

In particular, the dear leader has seen to it that the whole party and the entire people vigorously conducted mass movements. This is a great contribution made by him to further strengthening the might of unity and cohesion of the party and effecting revolutionary changes in socialist construction.

The immortal feats of the dear leader who has exalted the might of singlehearted unity of the WPK on the highest level with his extraordinary intelligence, tested leadership and popular politics of warm love and trust in only 30 years which can be regarded a moment in the long history of the revolutionary movement, will shine forever with the victorious advance of the Korean-style socialism.

Soviet's Article Praises Kim Chong-il's Politics

SK1106153294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—Former Soviet Army surgeon Mikhail Shulman recently published an article headlined "Benevolent Politics of Comrade Kim Chong-il Is Eternal Cornerstone of Unity and Victory".

In a lengthy article with subtitles "'We Serve the People Exclusively'" and "Even if the Earth Is Broken", the author says the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is confidently leading the whole party, all the people and the entire Army to the victory of socialism with his spirit of devoted service to the people, distinguished leadership ability and iron faith and will.

Shulman, far above 80, visited Korea several times from August 1945 when Korea was liberated from the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism.

He says:

What I cannot forget any moment among many unforgettable things in my life is the great personality and outstanding leadership ability of Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leaders of the Korean people, and the brilliant looks of socialist Korea which is soaring imposingly above the clouds in the east.

Pointing to the superior health care system of Korea where doctors visit residents, before the patients come to them, everyone gets medical assistance without paying a penny, and is provided with all conditions for the promotion of health by the state, the author says: The noble human love, great human love of Comrade Kim Chong-il is, indeed, a panacea for the longevity of the people in good health.

He went on:

Korea which was a colonial agriculture country with backward economy for many years and, worse still, was reduced to ruins in a three-year war built solid foundations of an independent national economy diversely developed and equipped with modern technologies in a few years. This is a miracle and change which can be brought about only in Korea where everything serves the people and their strength is the driving force of social development.

The imperialists in the West are decrying the economy of Korea, alleging that it has gone bankrupt. But this is a sophism to mar the image of socialist Korea.

I fully grasped the greatness of the leader through the reality of Korea which is constantly developing politics, economy and culture with main emphasis on the ideological, material and cultural life of the people.

Comrade Kim Chong-il who is possessed of the quality, personality and ability to make everything serve the people, believing them as heaven, is, indeed, a man for the people, the greatest of the great.

There were in history great men who earned fame with wisdom, famous generals who earned fame with martial arts and politicians who won popular sentiments with benevolence. But none of these great men can be equal to the great personality of Comrade Kim Chong-il with literary and military accomplishments, loyalty and filial duty, iron will and grit.

Socialism collapsed in some countries at present. But Korea is firmly defending socialism and winning victory after victory, smashing the anti-socialist moves of the imperialists.

Now the people of many countries question what is the secret that Korea, not a big country, is fighting the United States singlehanded and overwhelming it thoroughly at a time when even influential politicians cringe if the U.S. shout at them.

I clearly saw the source of the strength of the Korean people while visiting Korea.

The singlehearted unity of the party and the popular masses united rock-firm around Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, is the source of invincible might which can create something out of nothing and defeat any formidable enemy.

It is the distinguished merit of Comrade Kim Chong-il possessed of outstanding idea and theories and preeminent leadership ability that the singlehearted unity of Korea is so solid and virile as today.

The outstanding leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il in strengthening the working-class party, the general staff of the revolution, enhancing the leadership role of the party in every way, effecting a fundamental turn in the building of the revolutionary Armed Forces and fully displaying the advantages of socialism in economy, culture and all other domains has instilled deep into the hearts of the entire people the firm faith and will that when they uphold his leadership, they can surely occupy any fortress in socialist construction, drive back the counterrevolutionary offensive of all the enemies and always win victory. The singlehearted unity of Korea is so powerful because the whole society is overflowing with this faith and will.

What I want to stress as regards the singlehearted unity of Korea is that it is a crystal of benevolent politics, politics of love and trust of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The mighty unity of the entire people like the singlehearted unity of Korea can be achieved only by the strength of idea, the strength of politics and the strength of love of such illustrious leader as Comrade Kim Chong-il who enjoys undisputed trust of the people.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a country guided by the illustrious leader, where the people is the master of the state and society and the singlehearted unity of the entire people has been achieved, will further prosper, displaying its might to the whole world as a fortress of socialism and a beacon of the hope of mankind.

Kim Chong-il Efforts for Local Industry Hailed

SK1406073394 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2220 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Unattributed talk: "Our Local Industry That Has Been Cosolidated Under The Party's Leadership"]

[Text] Functionaries in the local industry sector and people's consumer goods producers throughout the country are accelerating production amid high zeal, upholding the party's light-industry-first policy. They are filled with the firm determination to actively contribute to implementing the party's light-industry-first policy by effecting a new innovation in people's consumer goods production at a time when thirty years have passed since the dear comrade leader began to exercise his leadership in our party's work, and they are now further exerting themselves on the occasion of Local Industry Day [7 June].

On 7 June 1958, 36 years ago, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song published the historic work, "On Increasing People's Consumer Goods and Improving Commodity Circulation Work," and, thus, elucidated a brilliant future for the development of local industry. Since then, he has strengthened and developed our local industry, along with our large-scale central industry, into a mighty and powerful consumer goods production base which has greatly contributed to implementing the party's policy of carrying out the revolution in light industry.

Shining on the path of the rapid development of local industry is the immortal leadership achievement of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: Developing local industry is an important way of increasing production rapidly and improving the people's living.

The dear comrade leader, with his deep insight into the important position of local industry, has been deeply interested in its development. When he personally conducted on-the-spot guidance to local industry plants, the dear comrade leader not only gave detailed teachings to the matters on increasing quantities and kinds of consumer goods by mobilizing and using local reserves and potential to the maximum and on improving their quality, but also led functionaries and working people in this sector to the single road of victory.

In the summer of 1962, the dear comrade leader conducted an on-the-spot guidance to various local industry plants in Sakchu county. This became an occasion for a new turn in the development of our local industry.

Visiting Sakchu textile plant that day, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il expressed satisfaction upon witnessing the appearance of the plant, where workers were working vigorously with modern equipment, and the cloth they produced, said with joy at a meeting with functionaries of the plant: In four years, the plant which started with a loom set in a room of another person's house has changed beyond recognition today.

He then stressed the need to produce more good-quality cloth by improving the level of technical provisions at local plants and fully mobilizing and utilizing locally available sources of raw materials.

The dear comrade leader also visited the Sakchu corn processing plant and there said that only when we build local industry plants with our own strength and develop technology rapidly will we make the country richer and the people better off.

Based on this deep understanding of the real situation in the Sakchu county and on his analysis of data, the dear comrade leader published the historic document, "The Position and Role of a Socialist Country's County," which is another brilliant milestone in developing local industry.

In August 1963, the dear comrade leader visited Pungsan, called the first village under the sky, and personally looked around a nameless food store in the town of Pungsan. On that day, he even personally tasted the soy sauce that is supplied to residents. He even provided detailed instructions on the method for producing more delicious soy sauce and bean paste.

In June 1990, four years ago, the dear comrade leader, in his historic letter to participants of the national meeting of light industry, set forth concrete tasks and methods to further develop local industry and to vigorously wage people's consumer goods production as a mass movement. Thus, he vigorously inspired functionaries and working people in the local industry sector into the revolution in light industry.

Recently the dear comrade leader has been providing us with constant love and care in order to provide our people with a happier and richer lives by more rapidly improving the standard of the people's living.

In an effort to repay the dear comrade leader's great love and care with loyalty, functionaries and working people in this sector have waged a vigorous struggle to produce various kinds of good-quality people's consumer goods by effectively utilizing the existing production capabilities and mobilizing locally available reserves and potential to the maximum. As a result of this, our local industry has made rapid development and is, accordingly, contributing greatly to smoothly meeting the ever-increasing people's demands for consumer goods.

Comrade Yi Kyong-yong from the General Department of Local Industry of North Pyongan Province says:

[Begin recording] Thanks to our party's chuche-oriented policy of simultaneouly developing central and local industry, our North Pyongan Province has made rapid progress in local industry. Local industry plants with modern production facilities have been built everywhere in our province today, including Changsong and Paetong, which were treated as remote and secluded areas in the past.

These local industry plants in our province have produced great quantities of various kinds of consumer goods with good quality in order to make our people's living more civilized and affluent.

Indeed, our industry which started from scratch, is today demonstrating its appearance as a chuche-oriented industry which can manufacture everything. This is indeed a great change.

This great change and great success on this land, is the brilliant result of the great leader's wise leadership and the dear comrade leader's energetic guidance. [end recording]

Functionaries and working people who work and live in Sakchu, the glorious land, where the dear comrade leader's immortal achievements dwell, are effecting constant innovation in building a raw material base and in modernizing local industry with the burning determination to effect greater success in developing local industry.

All counties in North Pyongan Province, including Changsong county, Chongju county, and Kwaksan county, have each built a 200-chongbo base for raw material cultivation as demanded by the party and are producing various kinds of people's consumer goods based on the base.

Counties in South Pyongan Province, including Yangdok county and Sinyang county, have collected great quantities of wild fruit, wild berries, and wild vegetables for developing local industry.

In addition, cities and counties like Huichon city and Chonchon county of Chagang Province, Kim Chong-suk county and Paekam county of Yanggang Province, and Pujon county of South Hamgyong Province, have constantly developed local industry by properly utilizing the specific situation of the regions.

These cities and counties have been developing their local industry by building medium- and small-type power plants and other numerous local industry plants, including chemical plants and caustic soda plants, everywhere.

Functionaries and working people in the local industry sector have registered great success in their struggle to modernize local industry, too.

Today, functionaries and working people in the local industry sector recall with high dignity, their proud days of having traversed the single road of leaping under the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear comrade leader. They are now vigorously struggling with the lofty zeal to effect a decisive turn in the production of people's consumer goods this year.

Operating Farms With Substitute Fuel Applauded

SK1306141594 Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean 25 May 94 p 3

[By reporter Kim Hui-yong]

[Excerpts] When we visit the wide rice fields of the cooperative farms in Unchon county, which is seething with the work to carry out rice transplanting to achieve a bumper crop, by highly upholding the party's militant call, we can see scenes attracting the people's curiosity.

All the farms in this county use substitute fuel, which they themselves produced, to operate tractors, rice seedling pullers, and rice seedling transplanters to harrow rice fields, pull rice seedlings, and carry out rice transplanting.

When passing through Sinchang, Namsan, and Songbong cooperative farms to go to Yangdam cooperative farm, we were able to see farmers joyously pull rice seedlings and carry out rice transplanting using gas as fuel produced on the farms by themselves. While guaranteeing a full operation and full capacity of rice seedling pullers and rice seedling transplanters by using gas as fuel, about 7 to 8 percent of all the rice paddies are being transplanted every day in the county. Therefore, rice transplanting on the basic area of rice paddies has already been finished in the county. [passage omitted]

The functionaries of the county maintained model bases producing substitute fuels in the plants in the county, and with the substitute fuel produced here, they showed that they are able to operate tractors, trucks, rice seedling transplanters, and rice seedling pullers as much as they want. Therefore, cooperative farms in the county maintained bases that produce substitute fuel in accordance with the actual circumstances. The functionaries of the county went into the cooperative farms and solved technological problems arising in maintaining the substitute fuel production bases and actively helped the cooperative farms to quickly build the production bases.

Therefore, plants, enterprises, and cooperative farms in the county started to produce substitute fuel from late last year. [passage omitted]

A functionary of the county whom we met at the rice transplanting battle field at the third work team of the Yangdam cooperative farm said that there were many good points in carrying out rice transplanting by using the substitute fuel.

If rice seedling transplanting is carried out with machines using substitute fuel, much oil can be saved. Cooperative farms in this county harrow rice fields, remove the young rice plants from the seedbeds, and transplant rice by using the substitute fuel, thus a large amount of oil is being saved.

Another good point is that if gas, the substitute fuel, is used in rice seedling transplanters and rice seedling pullers, the machines start easily, thus the expected rate of its operation can be enhanced greatly. Experiences by the cooperative farms in this county show that if the functionaries use their wit and make efforts to fulfill the party policy, and mobilize the plentiful source, substitute fuel can be produced ever so much and thus enhance the rate of operation of the agricultural machines. [passage omitted]

'Promising Reserve Scientists' of New Generation

SK1106151794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Pyongyang, June 11 (KCNA)—A large number of promising reserve scientists of new generation are growing in Korea.

Hundreds of associate doctors, candidate associate doctors, state patent right owners and dozens of international olympic prize winners have emerged from among students of and graduates from senior middle schools No. 1 across the country over the last ten years.

O Yong-hak, a student of the Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1, and Yim Kum-chol, a student of the Hamhung senior middle school No. 1, won gold medals at the national mathematic competition for third and fourth year students of senior middle schools which was held from late February to early March last year. And Yu Sang-chol, a graduate from the Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1, carried away gold medal from a national computer competition of students.

Yu Sang-chol, Yu Chol-chun , Yun Chol-su and Yi Kwang-chol, students of the Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1, garnered silver medals and Yi Kyong-sik, a student of the east Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1, and Pak Sang-yong, Kim In-chol, Chang Yong-sok and Pak Chol-man, students of the Pyongyang senior middle school No.,1, won bronze medals at the 31st international mathematic olympic held in Beijing in July 1990 and the 33rd international mathematic olympic in-Moscow in July 1992.

Choe Chol-min, a student of the Pyongyang senior middle school No. 1, who won excellent marks at the international information science competitions in Sofia in July 1988 and in Minsk in July 1990, drew attention of the academic circles by publishing a paper for candidate associate doctor in his senior middle school days.

Students of the senior middle schools No. 1 across the country are acquiring more extensive and profound modern science and technology to become doctors, associate doctors and world-famous scientists and inventors in their twenties and thirties.

South Korea

Reaction to DPRK's Reported IAEA Withdrawal

No 'Written Notification'

SK1406011494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0107 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Berlin, June 14 (YONHAP)—North Korea, which announced it would quit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Monday, has yet to officially notify the agency of the decision, IAEA officials said.

In addition, Pyongyang has not sent written notification to the United States, the depository country for the IAEA statitutes.

North Korea's withdrawal does not take effect according to international law unless the country sends written notification to the United States and then the IAEA Secretariat gives an authoritative interpretation to effect this notification.

But since North Korea's nuclear safeguards agreement holds unless it leaves the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), its announced withdrawal from the IAEA carries symbolic meaning of defying the IAEA sanctions resolution rather than any practical significance.

The IAEA Board of Governors passed a sanctions resolution against North Korea on Friday with overwhelming support. The resolution provides for an immediate halt to IAEA technical assistance totaling 500,000-600,000 dollars a year to Pyongyang.

The agency is studying North Korea's reason for announcing its withdrawal and will monitor the stalinist state's follow-up steps.

The North has apparently not restricted the activities of the IAEA inspection team currently in Yongbyon, but is likely to act soon after announcing it can no longer guarantee the continuity of nuclear safeguards, according to IAEA officials.

Officials Comment

SK1406000994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2210 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] As North Korea has suddenly declared its withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], the government is seeking various countermeasures while analyzing the details of North Korea's announcement.

After North Korea suddenly reported its withdrawal from the IAEA yesterday [13 June], government officials at the National Unification Board and the Foreign Ministry stayed in their offices late at night to grasp the real intention of North Korea by communicating with friendly nations, such as the United States and Japan. They also came to their offices earlier than usual this morning and are trying to seek measures, anticipating North Korea's countermeasure against possible sanctions by the UN Security Council.

Regarding North Korea's declaration of its withdrawal from the IAEA, a government official said: North Korea's action is analyzed to have double purpose, to express its dissatisfaction at the recent adoption of the IAEA resolution on sanctions against it and to convey its strong message against the future sanctions by the UN Security Council.

He continued: The government will strongly cope with North Korea's threatening offensive, acting in concert with the international community's effort to guarantee North Korea's nuclear transparency.

Another government official said: Even after it declared that it was withdrawing from the IAEA, North Korea did not mention that it would not allow nuclear inspections at all, but said that it would not allow inspections for a limited time until it decides whether to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. This hints at North Korea's will to completely withdraw from the NPT system if the UN Security Council makes a decision to impose sanctions against it.

He then anticipated that such an action by North Korea, however, would not block the international community's process to push for sanctions by the UN Security Council.

'Multifaceted Measures' Prepared

SK1406001994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0010 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—The government has decided to prepare multifaceted measures in response to North Korea's reported withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

In this connection, the government will make an official announcement on the issue Tuesday morning after convening a committee to coordinate national unification and security policy. The meeting is chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku, who is also national unification minister.

The government will likely urge North Korea to rejoin the IAEA and support international efforts to halt nuclear proliferation, in the judgement that Pyongyang's withdrawal from the agency is a direct refusal of international demands for nuclear transparency.

A government official said Pyongyang's announcement of its withdrawal from the IAEA could not be justified for any reason, stressing that "North Korea could not avoid the corresponding disadvantage unless it would abide by its duties as a member of the international community."

IAEA Reaction

SK1406005894 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2300 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Questions and answers between an unidentified announcer and Vienna-based correspondent Cha Man-sun over telephone—live]

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] will discuss countermeasures this afternoon after analyzing North Korea's real intention. Here is correspondent Cha Man-sun reporting from the IAEA on current movements.

[Announcer] Correspondent Cha Man-sun.

[Cha Man-sun] Yes.

[Announcer] How is the IAEA viewing North Korea's announcement of withdrawing its membership?

[Cha] The IAEA interprets North Korea's announcement of withdrawing its membership as giving up its rights and duties as a member state, and the refusal of inspections for assuring the continuity of inspection as a rejection of all inspections in accordance with the nuclear accord. The IAEA is greatly concerned that the continuity of inspections might be broken in North Korea.

IAEA Spokesman Hans Meyer said that although the agency has not received an official notice from North Korea, it will discuss countermeasures this afternoon after analyzing North Korea's real intention.

According to an IAEA source, the nuclear accord, which went into effect in 1992, is effective as long as North Korea does not withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. The source said it is of grave concern that North Korea might stubbornly insist that as a non-member state, it is not obliged to comply with the nuclear accord it signed with the IAEA.

The source said that while the NPT has 164 member states, the IAEA has only 122, and since many countries that are member states of the NPT are not IAEA members, at present, withdrawal from the NPT is more of a concern than IAEA membership to the international community.

[Announcer] Is North Korea's NPT membership still effective?

[Cha] The IAEA thinks so. Before I go into further detail, let me tell you about the official procedure of withdrawing IAEA membership. When an IAEA member state intends to withdraw, it has to notify the depository country, the United States. Then the United States will notify the IAEA Secretariat, the Board of Governors, and all member states.

Therefore, North Korea may withdraw from the IAEA immediately after an official notification to the United States. Paragraph 1, Article 3 of the NPT from which North Korea has withheld its withdrawal, stipulates that NPT member states are obliged to sign a nuclear accord with the IAEA. North Korea became an IAEA member in September 1974, an NPT member in December 1985, and signed a nuclear accord in December 1991. The IAEA believes that the nuclear accord signed with North Korea is still effective because Article 26 of the nuclear accord signed between the IAEA and North Korea stipulates that the accord is effective as long as the country concerned is a member of the NPT. Therefore, North Korea is obliged to accept IAEA inspection in accordance with the nuclear accord.

On the other hand, two inspectors, who have remained in Yongbyon since 18 May, checked the refueling without any restriction until 13 June. What measures North Korea will take regarding the inspectors today is of great concern.

YONHAP Assesses Significance

SK1406011094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0100 GMT 14 Jun 94

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—North Korea's threatened withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), although coming as a shock, is actually the weakest action it can take at this point.

For one thing, Pyongyang is not exempted from IAEA nuclear inspections even if it withdraws from the agency because such checks are obligatory under the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), not under IAEA membership rules.

North Korea is apparently saving NPT withdrawal, a much more drastic action that would sever all inspection obligations, for the future when the UN Security Council starts implementing sanctions.

In order to make its IAEA withdrawal official, North Korea must notify the United States in writing since it is the depository nation for the agency's statutes.

Once such notification is made, withdrawal becomes effective immediately.

North Korea joined the IAEA in 1974 and will be the first country to bolt the agency.

But the communist state remains in the NPT regime and it is this link with the NPT that keeps North Korea bound to inspection obligations.

In 1985 Pyongyang signed the NPT, an umbrella agreement requiring its members to comply with IAEA inspections in accordance with the safeguards accord. The IAEA, in short, conducts inspections on behalf of the NPT. As long as North Korea does not leave the NPT, the inspection requirements remain.

There are other nations which are non-members of the IAEA but are parties to the NPT, such as Taiwan and Latvia. This accounts for the difference in the size of membership between the two groups.

The IAEA has 118 members, including North Korea, while the NPT has a membership of 162.

Changes are afoot once Pyongyang leaves the IAEA. The agency paid for all inspection costs of past monitoring activities in North Korea; but if its withdrawal becomes effective, the North must bear the costs.

North Korea no longer needs to pay its share of the IAEA budget, currently 0.05 percent of the annual 20 million U.S. dollars.

Officials here say Pyongyang was driven to announce its IAEA withdrawal to show that its threat to leave the NPT is not merely bluster.

The IAEA, for the first time ever, adopted a sanctions resolution against North Korea on June 10 canceling 560,000 dollars worth of technical aid.

The pullout announcement is in retaliation for this IAEA action as well as a threat of what may come next—NPT withdrawal, officials say.

Minister Urges Safeguards

SK1406014194 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0100 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] After attending a Unification and Security Policy Coordination Council meeting this morning, Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister and minister of the National Unification Board, said that North Korea's attempt [as heard] to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency runs counter to a peaceful solution to the nuclear problem. He also urged North Korea to implement all nuclear safeguards measures, though belatedly. You will listen to it directly from him.

[Begin Yi Hong-ku recording] I cannot but clearly point out that North Korea's withdrawing from the mechanism of all safeguards measures for ensuring the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula would decisively run counter to a peaceful solution to the nuclear problem [pihaekhwarul pojanghanun modun anjonjochiui tureso pukhani ital handanun kosun haengmunjeui pyongjok haegyore kyolchongjoguro yokhaeng handanun kosul myongbaekhui chijokhaji anulsu opsumnida].

Therefore, I strongly urge North Korea to cooperate, though belatedly [chigum irado], with regard to all safeguards measures required by the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. [end recording]

Unification Minister Comments

SK1406021794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0204 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government expressed grave concern Tuesday over North Korea's announcement of its withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and strongly urged Pyongyang to respond to the world community's demand for guaranteed nuclear transparency.

"We express our deep concern because North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA makes the already serious nuclear problem more serious," said Deputy Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku.

Lee, who is also minister of the National Unification Board, made the statement at a press conference he held after presiding over a Unification and National Policy Coordinating Committee meeting Tuesday morning.

North Korea is wriggling out of all nuclear safeguards arrangements that guarantee the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, he pointed out.

"The government strongly urges North Korea to cooperate with all nuclear safeguards arrangements laid down by the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)."

Yi noted that no unusual military movements have been detected in North Korea and said the Seoul government will continue working for a peaceful resolution of the nuclear dispute.

With regard to the government's response to the latest North Korean move, he said the international community was already moving toward sanctions, indicating that Seoul will continue to push for the plan at the U.N. Security Council.

Yi added, however, that North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA would not hasten the adoption of U.N. sanctions. "We will keep a close watch on any development in the coming two to three weeks," he said.

DPRK Warned

SK1406015294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0139 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea warned North Korea Tuesday against deepening the nuclear crisis, voicing serious concern at Pyongyang's announced withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). "The government expresses serious concern at North Korea's announcement that it will withdraw from the IAEA in retaliation for the IAEA Board of Governors' recent sanctions resolution against North Korea," Foreign Ministry spokesman Chang Ki-ho said in a statement.

"The government warns North Korea against worsening the situation regarding the nuclear problem," he said.

Pyongyang should know that the international community will take a harder line through a U.N. Security Council sanctions resolution if North Korea fails to comply with all IAEA inspections as a party to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), he said.

"The government advises that North Korea accept the will of the international community and return as a responsible member of the world community," the statement said.

Background Analyzed

SK1406044694 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 14 Jun 94 p 3

[By Ku Pon-yong]

[Text] North Korea decided on 13 June to withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] in response to the international community's sanction pressure regarding the nuclear issue, and the development is gaining public attention.

The ostensible reason for North Korea's withdrawal is to repulse the IAEA resolution against North Korea. It can be further interpreted that North Korea will not respond to the international community's demand for the assurance of nuclear transparency for the time being even if the UN Security Council imposes sanctions.

However, it is early to determine whether the measure would extend to North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. According to international law, a country which has withdrawn from the IAEA could be free from obligations as a NPT member state within 24 hours. It is highly probable that North Korea would withdraw from the NPT judging from North Korea's announcement that it refuses all IAEA inspections and would regard the IAEA's demand for inspections as a declaration of war.

The government authorities provide two different interpretations on North Korea's strong measure. Since sanctions by the international community are inevitable anyway, North Korea intends to be free from the restrictions of international organizations and proceed with the development of nuclear weapons with its existing plutonium. The withdrawal from the IAEA means that North Korea would not accept any ad hoc, routine, or special inspections on its past nuclear activities and would not be restricted by any international organizations regarding its future nuclear programs.

On the other hand, some people believe that it is one of North Korea's brinkmanship strategies to maximize the effect of the nuclear card. North Korea estimates that even though it becomes a nonmember of the IAEA, it could continue behind-the-scene negotiations with the United States to accomplish its goals and then return to the IAEA again. North Korea believes only a strong measure could bring about a rapid development of its relations with the United States.

North Korea may be gambling on reversing the situation, in which it has brought on international sanctions by continuing the refueling, with a single blow. The withdrawal may reflect North Korea's intention to gain the third round of talks with the United States or at least proceed with the development of nuclear weapons taking hostage the ROK which wants "to avoid war by all means."

North Korea's reaction has such a complex background that its focus will be revealed only after the follow-up measures, possibly the withdrawal from the NPT or deporting of IAEA inspectors, are taken. There is a strong prospect that North Korea's intention may be revealed through former U.S. President Carter, who is scheduled to pay a personal visit to the North on 15 June.

Warning 'Weaker' Than Expected

SK1406051294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0449 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea was certainly caught by surprise but the situation looked better than first imagined Tuesday after a night of fumbling over North Korea's announced withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"We always worked with a situation in mind where North Korea would go ahead and pull out of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)," said one Foreign Ministry official on condition of anonymity. "This is weaker than that, although it is apparently a prior warning."

Even when North Korea does formally quit the IAEA, its NPT membership still requires it to accept nuclear inspections by the agency.

North Korea was apparently well aware of this. In a Foreign Ministry statement Monday night announcing its IAEA withdrawal, Pyongyang said it would not comply with IAEA safeguards measures.

For a South Korean Government that stood ready to counter the North's NPT withdrawal, Monday's announcement was, as another ministry official put it, "the mildest action North Korea could take."

Predictable changes will first occur at the UN Security Council. The United States still hasn't tabled its draft resolution and is now expected to harden the tone of the resolution to show firmness toward North Korea.

"But the draft, if it is to change in tone, will not veer away from the original strategy," said the Foreign Ministry official. The original strategy is to seek step-by-step sanctions starting, for example, with a cultural and technological embargo.

Seoul's immediate concern is former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's visit to Pyongyang, which begins Wednesday.

North Korea has used the repeated ploy of sending a double signal—hard-line and conciliatory—at the same time to sow confusion.

If the IAEA withdrawal is a hard-line message, then North Korean leader Kim Il-song may use Carter's visit to deliver a conciliatory message to the United States that Washington will find hard to either ignore or accept officially.

What North Korea suggests now can change the momentum at the UN Security Council, especially regarding China, which may insist on more diplomatic dialogue.

For now, Pyongyang is using the IAEA withdrawal card as a double-edged sword, waving it as a threat and trying to force the United States to the negotiating table.

Interpretations by officials here, in essence, focused on North Korea's need to show its threats were not merely words, especially before the UN Security Council resolution comes down. By showing that it can quit the NPT and actually leaving [as received] the IAEA, North Korea tried to hit a weak spot in Washington, which champions the NPT regime as a major element of foreign policy.

At the same time, North Korea strategically minimized the impact of its action by leaving its ties with the NPT intact to save this card for later in countering UN sanctions.

There is little that Seoul can do now, officials say, except to make sure that Carter understands South Korea's position on the current crisis and to ensure that its stance is reflected in the upcoming Security Council resolution.

DPRK Asked To Retract

SK1406054494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0457 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Yi Ki-taek called on North Korea Tuesday to retract its announcement on quitting the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), asserting that such action will not help settle its nuclear row with the international community.

He also urged Pyongyang to guarantee the transparency of its nuclear development program and renounce its nuclear ambitions.

In an emergency press conference called at his Democratic Party office in the morning, he said, "I'm deeply concerned about a crisis of war being brought about by the government's unprincipled and incompetent diplomacy."

He called for a peaceful solution to the nuclear problem through a package deal, instead of through sanctions, and the convening of a special parliamentary session to discuss this pressing security issue.

On the failed parliamentary investigation of the Sangmudae scandal, he criticized certain banks and government agencies for refusing to produce the documentary evidence requested by lawmakers, terming the refusal "an anti-social act."

The opposition party will sue those suspected of being involved in the scandal for bribery, impeach the finance, justice and defense ministers for obstructing the investigation and make public its own probe results and the military prosecution's investigation records, Yi said.

Commenting on the nuclear issue, he said, "the present government instils a sense of war crisis into the people's mind, the people are scared of war, and because of this the economy faces a crisis... Dealing with the issue, the government has only created confusion in its approach, using a stick one time and a carrot another time without any principle. It must now reconfirm the principle of avoiding war under any circumstances."

He added, "I'm ready to visit North Korea if it would help solve the nuclear issue."

Yi opposed any U.S.-led sanctions against North Korea outside the UN Security Council and urged the government to seek a peaceful solution through direct inter-Korean dialogue, including a summit, "instead of pushing for UN sanctions even by distorting the results of summit diplomacy."

Asked why the parliamentary investigation of the Sangmudae scandal failed, he said the government had interfered with the probe by refusing to produce necessary data in an attempt to conceal the truth.

During the course of the investigation, the government exposed its immorality while destroying public trust in politics, he said.

The truth behind the scandal must be brought to light by amending the parliamentary inspection law to give it more teeth, he stressed.

Official Warns About Expulsion

SK1406085794 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] It is predicted that the situation will develop into a grave phase if North Korea, which has declared its withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], should go out of the way to expel two IAEA inspectors who are now staying in North Korea.

A government official concerned warned: As a sovereign state, North Korea has the full freedom to withdraw from an international organization. If North Korea should expel the IAEA inspectors who are now staying in Pyongyang, however, this will not only be noncompliance with Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], but also a direct challenge to the UN Security Council (?exhorting) that inspectors be permanently stationed in Pyongyang. This will bring about a serious consequence.

Rejecting any attempt to justify the North's possession of nuclear arms as an equalizer, Han said "You cannot disregard the danger of nuclear weapons and the cost of holding on to it will continue to rise."

Minister Han also said that his government would continue to honor the denuclearization declaration which he said the North has already violated, adding "We have no intention to give up the declaration."

Papers Review Situation

SK1406142194

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of articles published in Seoul vernacular newspapers on 14 June on North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO carries on page 1 a 1,600-word report on the movement of the ROK Government, the United States, the IAEA, and China in the face of North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA, writing they are all agonizing over mapping out countermeasures. The report notes that the North Korean nuclear issue is at the edge of a cliff, while noting that the ROK Government confirmed again its stance of pushing for UN imposition of sanctions against North Korea by convening an emergency meeting of the Unification-National Security Coordination Council on 14 June. The report continues: "Because North Korea has not withdrawn from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, NPT, a mother law of the IAEA, it still has a legal duty to undergo inspections of its nuclear facilities. In case North Korea should reject the inspections and order inspectors to leave, a process for international inspection of North Korea's nuclear activities will completely disappear, thereby greatly shocking the international community. North Korea's nuclear issue will surely bring about long-term consequences, depending upon the international community's response."

The report quotes Yi Hong-ku, deputy prime minister and minister of the National Unification Board, as saying after the 14 June Unification-National Security Coordination Council meeting that North Korea's breaking away from all safety devices guaranteeing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is decisively running counter to the peaceful solution of the nuclear issue, while urging North Korea to cooperate to secure all safety measures as required by the NPT system. The report further quotes Minister Yi as stressing that there is no peculiar military activity on North Korea's part, while noting the government will continue to make solid and consistent efforts for the peaceful solution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

CHUNGANG ILBO also carries on page 3 a 1,200-word article on the reaction of the ROK Government. The article quotes participants in the 14 June Unification-National Security Coordination Council meeting as analyzing that North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA was carried out to emphasize its threats that if the IAEA imposes sanctions, it will withdraw from the NPT; and if the UN Security Council decides on sanctions, it will regard this as a declaration of war. Government officials concerned are quoted as saying that North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA is a low-level measure—one step lower than withdrawal from the NPT—to secure as many bargaining chips as possible; not to abruptly escalate the intensity of confrontation; not to yield to the pressure of sanctions; and to hold in check sanctions by the UN Security Council. The article comments: Considering that North Korea's latest move is aimed at testing our government's will, the ROK Government has decided to react strongly.

The article reports that it will be easier for the ROK Government and the United States to persuade China and other neighboring nations to deal with North Korea's nuclear issue, predicting that China and Russia will be able to exercise stronger influence and North Korea's nuclear issue will be discussed at a forum other than the United Nations. The article concludes that the government is concentrating its efforts on mapping out security countermeasures against North Korea's possible provocations.

CHUNGANG ILBO also carries on page 3 a 1,000-word editorial on the dangerous nature of North Korea's withdrawal from the IAEA, noting that North Korea's diplomacy is moving toward an extremely dangerous all-or-nothing stage. The editorial comments that North Korea has two goals: One, North Korea will deal only with the United States to the exclusion of the IAEA; two, North Korea is trying to drive a wedge in the international community's discussion of the imposition of sanctions. The editorial concludes that North Korea is trying to achieve a dramatic effect with the approach of the upcoming visit by former U.S. President Carter and urges North Korea to understand that the United States is not so easy and that if its excessive strategy fails, there will be a larger danger.

The moderate, culturally oriented MUNHWA ILBO carries on page 1 an article on ROK and U.S. reactions. The article predicts that as a result of the increasing mistrust of North Korea, discussion at the UN Security Council will proceed more quickly, while noting the ROK and the United States have reaffirmed their position to push for the UN Security Council's imposition of phased sanctions on North Korea.

MUNHWA ILBO also carries on page 1 an article on Pyongyang's ulterior motives. The article reports that Pyongyang is trying to realize direct negotiations with the United States, while noting that in the eyes of North Korea, the IAEA is nothing but an obstacle to its negotiations with the United States. The article continues that North Korea did not withdraw from the NPT, reporting this means that North Korea is not preparing for a face-to-face confrontation with the United States, but shows that it has not given up its nuclear diplomacy through negotiations.

MAC, Defense Ministry Suspend Panmunjom Tours

SK1406024394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0235 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—The Military Armistice Commission (MAC) has suspended foreign tourist trips to the truce village of Panmunjom, while the South Korean Defense Ministry is restricting the number of foreigners who visit underground tunnels near the truce line, tourism sources said Tuesday.

The moves are apparently related to the rising tension fueled by the North Korean nuclear dispute, the sources said.

The MAC recently notified the Korea Travel Bureau, Inc. of its decision to suspend visits by foreign tourists to Panmunjom for a week from Monday. The travel company has exclusive rights to arrange foreign tourists' trips to Panmunjom.

Without citing any reason, the MAC said that such tours would be possible again in a week.

With the MAC notification, the travel company has canceled Panmumjom tours which amount to an average 100 foreign tourists per day.

A business source said the MAC has often suspended Panmunjom tours according to conditions at the truce village, such as military training, and speculated that the abrupt suspension might not be related to the tension between South and North Korea.

Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry recently did not approve parts of applications submitted by travel agencies for foreigners to tour underground tunnels dug by North Korea at the truce line, causing the cancellation of these tours.

Another business source said the Defense Ministry had notified the Korea Association of General Travel Agents that the number of Korean and foreign tourists recently exceeded the appropriate number of people to observe the tunnels.

Ambassador to UN Urges Sanctions

SK1406022394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] United Nations, June 13 (YONHAP)—U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright said Monday the first draft resolution calling for U.N. sanctions against North Korea might be circulated within 24 hours.

Commenting on North Korea's announcement that it would quit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Albright said that Pyongyang's withdrawal from the agency, if it were true, would be a serious problem and would make the situation worse.

Meanwhile, representatives of the 10 non-permanent members of the U.N. Security Council had separate meetings with the South Korean and Japanese ambassadors here Monday to exchange views on sanctions against Pyongyang.

South Korean Ambassador Yu Chong-ha said, "Judging from North Korea's attitude at this juncture of the scheduled third round of high-level talks between the United States and North Korea, Pyongyang seems determined to develop nuclear weapons." He then called on the Security Council to adopt sanctions to stop the North's suspected nuclear weapons program.

The council's non-standing members are to meet with North Korea's U.N. Ambassador Pak Kil-yon Tuesday on similar matters.

The Security Council is expected to hold a closed meeting Tuesday to continue discussion of the North Korean nuclear issue including its withdrawal from the IAEA.

The United States has almost completed a draft resolution calling for the step-by-step imposition of sanctions. Upon approval by President Bill Clinton, the draft will be circulated within the Security Council after Korea-U.S. consultations.

The draft resolution could be distributed to the council as early as Tuesday, but other U.N. sources predicted it would be determined after former U.S. President Jimmy Carter returns from Pyongyang.

Minister Discusses Nuclear Issue With Carter

SK1406065394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0644 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu has asked former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who travels to North Korea Wednesday, to make sure Pyongyang realizes there is an end to Seoul's and Washington's patience on the nuclear crisis.

Han shared a two-hour lunch with Carter at a downtown hotel Tuesday and emphasized that North Korea needs to understand the international community's firm position on its nuclear program, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Carter passes through the heavily fortified truce village of Panmunjom Wednesday morning and is scheduled to meet with North Korean leader Kim Il-song before returning to Seoul Saturday.

Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—The former U.S. President is going to North Korea as head of the private peace center he established in his home state of Georgia.

Carter explained that he was first invited by Pyongyang in 1991 and has since sought to visit both Koreas. North Korean officials invited him to come again recently and he decided he could play a positive role in helping defuse the problem, Carter was quoted as saying.

Both Seoul and Washington have repeatedly stressed that Carter comes and goes as a private citizen and that he is not a U.S. envoy.

But with North Korea's unexpected announcement Monday that it is withdrawing from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), officials here admit that Carter could find out North Korea's intentions and drive home a message from Seoul and Washington.

Foreign Minister Han, noting that the visit comes at a very sensitive time, asked Carter to take special care in conveying to North Korea exactly how serious the nuclear situation has become, officials said.

Carter responded that by delivering such information, he hopes to contribute to the problem's solution through dialogue, they said.

Han stressed that North Korea's latest actions, including its announced withdrawal from the IAEA, make hard-line coutermeasures by the international community inevitable.

The North must be made aware that unless it changes its attitude soon, the South and the United States will run out of patience, Han was quoted as saying.

Papers Assess Carter's Visit to North Korea

SK1406064994

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular newspapers on 14 June publish editorials, reports, and articles on former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's upcoming visit to North Korea.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 3 a 1,200-word editorial entitled "North Korea's Withdrawal from IAEA and Carter's Visit to North Korea." The editorial notes that Carter, who is expected to meet North and South Korea's presidents at a time when the North Korean nuclear issue has become the top world issue, can be regarded as the most important nuclear envoy. However, the editorial states that North Korea, while waiting for Carter, chose a hardline position, namely the withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, instead of making an appeasement gesture, and put a wet blanket on the expectations for Carter's visit, thus causing people to worry about the possibility of Kim Il-song taking advantage of Carter's visit. Recalling Kim Il-song's past tactics to selectively invite Americans and give them the warm treatment, the editorial stresses that Kim Il-song's propagandistic remarks have more falsehood than truth as shown in the case of North Korea's promise to allow the IAEA's nuclear inspections. The editorial points out that "even if the United States begins to support North Korea's light-water reactor, North Korea will undoubtedly continue extracting plutonium from the so-called 'military facilities' while pretending that it froze the extraction of plutonium only in a certain reactor."

The editorial then calls on Jimmy Carter to keenly be aware of this situation during his visit to North Korea, and not be dragged into Kim Il-song's deceitful tactics. The paper concludes that "at a time when the people think that there is no other means but sanctions, Carter's visit may be the last opportunity for North Korea. North Korea should not attempt to use Carter just as it has used other people who visited North Korea in the past."

CHOSON ILBO also publishes on page 4 a 1,500-word article by reporter Kim Tu-sik, under the headline "Carter's Visit to North Korea—What He Should Do and What He Should Not Do in Pyongyang." The article notes that the people are hoping that during his visit to North Korea, Carter will clearly convey to the Kim Il-song regime the resolute will of the international community for a solution to the North Korean nuclear problem. The paper expresses the hope that "Carter will emphasize that only when North Korea immediately allows the 'special inspection' of two undeclared nuclear facilities in Yongbyon as demanded by the ROK and the United States, can North Korea get rid of the sanctions crisis." The paper then stresses that "Carter should urge North Korea to make public the record on the extraction of plutonium in the past and detailed additional information on the operational plan of the reactor in Yongbyon." The article adds that Carter should raise the issue of reform and openness of the North Korean society, as well as its human rights issue.

As the points that Carter should refrain from doing, the article emphasizes that Carter should not give a wrong message that may encourage North Korea's hopes; should refrain from causing North Korea to misunderstand that he is a special envoy of the U.S. Government, and should not exaggerate the result of his visit to North Korea. The paper concludes by saying that our government will inform Jimmy Carter of our aforementioned hope before he crosses Panmunjom on 15 June.

The moderate daily TONG-A ILBO publishes on page 3 a 1,200-word editorial entitled "We Call On Carter To Grasp North Korea's True Intention." Attaching importance to Carter's meeting with Kim Il- song during which mutual messages may be exchanged, the editorial expresses the belief that he is the last nuclear special envoy of the U.S. Government, although he stated that his visit is strictly personal, in view of his past role in U.S.-Syrian relations and in negotiations for the Ethiopian war. Pointing to a possibility for North Korea to take advantage of his visit for a peace offensive to evade sanctions and for gaining time, the paper asks Carter to precisely inform North Korea of the international community's demand and to grasp North Korea's true intentions, whether they are aimed at establishing diplomatic relations with the United States and receiving support for a light-water reactor, or at ultimately pursuing nuclear development.

The paper also calls on Carter to raise North Korea's human rights issue while in Pyongyang since he was known as the president for human rights, and to demonstrate his ability in blocking North Korea's nuclear development since he blocked the ROK's nuclear development plan while he was in office.

The moderate HANGUK ILBO publishes on page 3 a 1,600-word article by reporter Ko Tae-song, entitled "The Government To Cope With the North Korean Nuclear Issue Based on Sense of Reality." Pointing to recent delicate and cautious changes in the government steps to deal with the North Korean nuclear problem, the article states that the government appears to be turning from a hardline position by favoring sanctions to the attitude of accepting the reality that requires active participation of China and Russia, and this government attitude is reflected in viewing Carter's visit to North Korea. The article notes that the government was at first worried about a possibility of Carter being dragged in by North Korea's delaying and propaganda tactics but is now trying to take the best advantage of his visits to both North and South of Korea for directly conveying the worries and warnings of the international community and of our government to North Korea on its nuclear problem.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN publishes on page 2 a 1,200-word article by reporter Yi Song-chol, entitled "Carter's Role—Half Affirmative, Half Negative." The paper notes that the government's view on Carter's visit to North Korea is more on the negative side at the moment because his visit may give unfavorably impact our security strategy when sanctions are being discussed at the UN Security Council. On the contrary, some people are hoping for his positive role because he maintains special relations with the Clinton administration and because North Korea expressed the will to invite Carter since 1991. The article refers to remarks made by Professor Kim Yu-nam from Danguk University on the possibility of Carter taking a certain U.S. message accepting the North Korean demands. However, the article says: "Most experts point out that the success of Carter's visit depends more on what kind of message North Korea will give him rather than on whether he will bring a message with him or not and than on his role as a mediator."

U.S., Seoul Officials Inspect Vessels

SK1406091494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Report from KBS General Bureau in Pusan]

[Text] In connection with North Korea's nuclear issue, a ROK-U.S. joint inspection has been conducted of a ROK vessel that will be mobilized to transport U.S. military supplies in an emergency.

The inspection was conducted at Point No. 1 of the Central Pier of Pusan Harbor on 10 June. It has been confirmed that an inspection was conducted of the facilities of the vessel; of the procedure to hand over the vessel in an emergency; and of the status of the fuel storage of No. 9 Donam, a 4,998 tonne-class cargo vessel belonging to the Hung-A Maritime Company.

An official concerned at Pusan Harbor said: As South-North relations have recently become tense, I understand an inspection has been conducted of a vessel that will be mobilized in an emergency. In an emergency, several vessels, including tankers and passenger ships—besides the aforementioned vessel—will be handed over to the U.S. Armed Forces.

Chiefs of Staff Operate Special Nuclear Team

SK1406014994 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 14 Jun 94 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 13 June that the ROK Defense Ministry's Headquarters for the Joint Chiefs of Staff has operated a "special nuclear countermeasure team" headed by a lieutenant general (director-level) to cope with the recent North Korean nuclear issue since the end of May.

Kim Pyong-il Reportedly Assumes Military Post

SK1406104394 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1025 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] It is reported that Kim Pyong-il, North Korean President Kim Il-song's second son, has recently assumed an important post in military affairs.

Western sources in Beijing who are well versed in North Korean affairs have reported: It has been learned that Kim Pyong-il—whose activities inside North Korea have not been known since he returned to Pyongyang last April, one month after he went to Finland as ambassador—has been appointed to an important post in North Korean military affairs.

YONHAP Cites U.S. Envoy on ROK Policies

SK1306112494 Seoul YONHAP in English 1116 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Kim Chol-su on Monday expressed concern about a move of the United States to revise its anti-dumping-related laws and regulations in a way advantageous to itself contrary to the norms of the Uruguay Round agreement.

"The Super Article 301 which the United States has revived through an administrative order does not go compatible with the principle of the new World Trade Organization (WTO)," Kim said.

Speaking at the seventh Korea-U.S. business conference held at the Hotel Intercontinental, Minister Kim said the United States should not arbitrarily invoke the Super Article 301.

He stressed that any inter-country trade disputes should be resolved under procedures duly laid down by the World Trade Organization.

Kim also said he expects the United States' investment in South Korea would be further spurred in the days ahead.

"American investors should know we have such merits as an extensive market, able work force, ability to digest high-tech projects and political stability," he said.

Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador James Laney said at the conference that South Korea should ease imports control of consumption goods such as automobiles and cable television programs.

He said a serious imbalance is shown between the two countries in the exports and imports of automobile, which he said is due to South Korea's "unreasonable tariffs policy and complex imports permit regulations."

Laney also expressed the hope that South Korea will further ease regulations in the broad areas of cable TV programs or software designs. This will be helpful to strengthening South Korea's own international competitiveness, he said.

The American ambassador said that South Korea's consumption goods market, which he said was closed in the past, is getting opened step by step.

Still, he said, South Korean bureaucrats have the means of making imports difficult and imports are still regarded by many people as something immoral.

Consumption goods imports will give an opportunity for Korean consumers to conserve goods and will lead Korean industries to increase productivity, Laney said.

Prevention of consumption goods imports was taken as the manifestation of patriotism in the past, but this is a time for the South Korean Government to switch to a new stance, Ambassador Laney said.

Ministries Differ on Lowering Tariffs

SK1406053194 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 14 Jun 94 p 2

[By Pak Chong-mun]

[Text] As the ROK-U.S. Economic Council meeting scheduled for 24 June in Washington draws near, the government has set out the work of lowering tariffs on foreign cars and improving related systems. However, the government is in trouble due to differences of opinion between government offices.

As a result of a series of recent policy meetings, the government made a rough decision to present to the United States our initial proposal for a package solution that includes the ROK's promise to lower tariffs at the minimum level and to improve related systems. However, it is undergoing difficulties in mapping out a final draft for the solution to the issue since government offices, such as the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Finance, failed to narrow differences of opinion on the scope of tariff reduction and on the necessity of lowering domestic duties.

A Foreign Ministry official said on 13 June: "As the scheduled 24 June Washington meeting of the ROK-U.S. Economic Council headed by both countries' deputy foreign ministers draws near, related government offices held discussions on measures for it, such as lowering tariffs and domestic duties. However, they have only agreed to the necessity of a small-scale tariff reduction and the improvement of related system and failed to prepare concrete measures."

This official also said: "It is inevitable for us to show a sincere attitude by making some concessions in the upcoming Economic Council meeting because the United States considers the car import issue as a pending core trade issue between the ROK and the United States, and because of the serious imbalance between the ROK's car exports to the United States and U.S. car exports to the ROK."

The official said that the Foreign Ministry, as the office in charge of negotiations, is in trouble since, as the Ministry of Finance noted, it is in fact impossible to simply change the system of domestic duties—such as special excise tax, acquisition tax, and education tax.

He added: "I am very much concerned about the possibility that, if we do not propose satisfactory compromise terms in the upcoming meeting, the United States will use it as a ruse for invoking the Super 301 provision, regarding the ROK's attitudes toward the car import issue and the sausage clearance issue as unfair trade practices.

Burma

Senior General Than Shwe, Delegation Return

BK1306154694 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], arrived back in Yangon [Rangoon] by special aircraft at 0915. They were on a goodwill visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] at the invitation of the Laotian president, Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan. Sr. Gen. Than Shwe was accompanied by his wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing.

They were welcomed at Yangon airport by General Maung Aye, vice chairman of SLORC; Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Lieutenant General Tin Tun, SLORC members and deputy prime ministers; Lt. Gen. Tin U, SLORC secretary-2, and SLORC members; cabinet ministers; deputy foreign minister, senior military officers and their wives; responsible military and civil officials; Dr. Baron Walther von Bieberstein, German ambassador and dean of diplomatic corps; ambassadors, charge d'affairs, and their wives; and Mrs. (Virasak Bunsak), charge d'affaires of LPDR.

Sr. Gen. Than Shwe and his wife were also accompanied by Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1, and his wife, Dr. Khin Win Shwe; Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture; Brigadier General Abel, minister of national planning and economic development; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs, and wife; Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information; and responsible personnel from the SLORC office, Defense Ministry, and Foreign Ministry.

Return of Eight NLD Members Viewed

BK1306151394 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 12 Jun 94

["Dispatch" from Larry Jagen—from the "Current World Affairs" program]

[Text] In Burma, eight members of the main opposition party NLD—National League for Democracy—returned to the legal fold. According to Burmese Government news agencies, five elected representatives and three party organizers returned to the legal fold in the capital of Kachin State, Myitkyina, in northern Burma last week.

Two years ago, these gentlemen fled to the border area controlled by the KIO [Kachin Independence Organization] and formed the NLD Liberated Area-North. BBC correspondent Larry Jagen dispatches the following report:

Dear Listeners: More than a week ago, eight members of the National League for Democracy, who set up their office in the armed group-controlled area of (Pagyawng) two years ago, brought down the NLD flag, closed the office, and headed for Myitkyina.

According to Burmese Television news, these NLD members returned to the legal fold after having gone into the jungle, but observers believe that they returned to Burma legally on their own volition because they were no longer permitted to continue to carry out their political activities.

According to a reliable opposition source, these eight people returned to Myitkyina to continue to work for regaining democratic rights in Burma. They returned to Myitkyina with the help of the Kachin armed group, the KIO. Not long ago, the KIO completed the singing of a cease-fire agreement with the military government.

A source in Kachin State says that since a cease-fire agreement has been signed, their return to mainland Burma is natural because they did not act as an armed opposition group. It says some of these politicians are from various parts of Kachin State, while others belong to a Burmese group from outside the KIO-controlled area. It also says that they were sent back to Myitkyina on their request. This kind of development will continue to be a problem because it has been learned that there were some activities going on long before the KIO signed the cease-fire agreement—long before February.

According to the opposition source, these political leaders have wanted to return home since last year. These elected representatives planned to make the political transition [returning to the legal fold] after holding discussions with members of the exiled NCGUB, National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, and other NLD elected representatives at the Manerplaw camp along the Thai-Burmese border last September. It says the KIO explained and prohibited them from making a political transition and arranged their journey back to (Pagyawng) camp through areas controlled by Wa ethnic nationals who have already reached a cease-fire agreement with the Burmese Government. According to the opposition source, these eight political leaders were disappointed by the influence of personal struggles and factions within the NLD movement in the border area. All of them are Kachin nationals and they were especially unhappy when none of them were invited to participate in the NCGUB, a move they perceived as racial discrimination within the exiled NLD movement. This political transition will badly affect the NCGUB and NLD groups based along the Burmese border.

After the NLD won 80 percent of the parliamentary seats in the 1990 general election, about 20 of its members fled to the border areas to continue the fight for democracy. However, this number is gradually dwindling. About a year ago, two prominent members of the NCGUB—one in China and another in Thailand—were killed. Moreover, another NCGUB minister returned to Rangoon early this year. According to the opposition source, after the return of five Kachin parliamentary representatives, there are now less than 10 opposition parliamentary representatives in the border area. But another two representatives, including U Daniel Aung [of the Lahu National Development Party], came to join the Manerplaw opposition movement last month.

NCGUB Minister Discusses NLD Surrender

BK1406012694 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Interview with U Maung Maung Aye, information minister of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, by unidentified BBC correspondent on 13 June; place not given—recorded]

[Text] U Maung Maung Aye answered the following when asked why the NLD [National League for Democracy] members had to return to the legal fold.

[Aye] Concerning the return of the Kachin parliamentary representatives, we received the letter of the Organizational Committee of the National League for Democracy Liberated Area-North dated 27 March 1994 which was addressed to the Central Organizational Committee-Manerplaw, on 29 April 1994. The letter says [they] won't be able to properly discharge their duties and responsibilities given by the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma and the National League for Democracy Liberated Area due to the ceasefire agreement between the KIO [Kachin Independence Organization] and SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council]. The letter also says there are financial difficulties and security risks in carrying out their responsibilities outside KIO areas. It says they decided to return home because it is impossible to survive in the KIO area. Based on this letter, we perceive that the Kachin parliamentary representatives returned because they cannot survive in the KIO area.

[Correspondent] It has been learned that the Kachin parliamentary representatives were discouraged and disappointed because they were not given any responsibilities in the NLD's exiled government. Would you like to clarify this matter?

[Aye] It is not true. Our National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma was formed by parliamentary representatives. This is why our genuine desire is to expand the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma especially by including parliamentary representatives who are ethnic nationals, and we have been striving for this for quite some time. The Kachin parliamentary representatives also knew this. This is why we would like to clarify that the report we have just heard is not true.

[Correspondent] How is the situation presently in the NLD's political movement?

[Aye] Yes, the return of the parliamentary representatives will not affect the NLD's political movement because while there are many who have returned to the legal fold, there are also considerable numbers of parliamentary representatives, NLD members, and people from other political parties who do not want to live under the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council], and have come to the liberated area during the revolutionary period. It is a natural phenomenon. Concerning this matter, there is no effect on our work being carried out on this side. It is because the communications between the NLD groups in the north and the Manerplaw central headquarters are very difficult. We would like to say that the return of the NLD members in the north will not affect the National League for Democracy's present and future activities because the NLD's political activities are operated from Manerplaw.

[Correspondent] How is the situation in the NLD's political movement in Thailand?

[Aye] Yes, it is true that we face more difficulties than before, but not to the extend that we cannot do our work at all. We can continue to survive and move around. We would like to say that we are continuing to do our regular work.

SLORC on Importance of Cooperative System

94SE0129B Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 17 May 94 pp1,6

[text][excerpts]-Yangon, 16 May—Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo addressed the opening ceremony of the Cooperative Market Festival at the Chanmya Thazi Department Store in Mandalay at 8:30 am today.

[Passage omitted]-The Secretary-2 said in his address that cooperative system enables those lacking strength to become strong economic organization to win a competitive edge in the market economic system. The country, he said, is practising market economy. In a market oriented system, he pointed out, people doing business will certainly encounter such conditions like insufficient supply of capital, weakness in commodity production technology, incompetence in the administrative skills and market instability. All those who are weak must cooperate and reciprocate one another to remedy the weaknesses, he said. This is cooperative way, he added.

He noted that the Cooperative Market Festival aims at securing vast markets for domestic products and strengthening the existing markets for the products. The cooperative societies, entrepreneurs and the public are to strive toward that end, he added.

The Cooperative Market Festival in itself is self-evident, he said. It involves trading, collective efforts and entertainment programmes.

Products of different localities, traditional costumes, works of art and traditional dishes will also be available at the festival thereby promoting and preserving cultural traditions, the Secretary-2 said.

He said the festival is vital for finding markets for domestic products, strengthening and expanding the existing ones and introducing new products in accordance with consumers' demand.

He said he believes acquiring new markets and producing new products will contribute toward realizing the Allround Development year in 1994-95.

The people of Mandalay Division and Mandalay can take pride for being able to organize the festival welcoming the Allround Development Year, he said.

The Secretary-2 looked forward to expanding trade as transactions are to be carried out through contracts at the festival. Cooperative societies, those engaged in cooperative undertakings and interested persons of the States and Divisions are converging on the festival. During their stay at the festival, they are said to be attending a seminar on upgrading and improving cooperative activities, he said. The seminar will concentrate on doing cooperative undertakings actively, boosting export and producing new items required by the markets, he said.

He underscored that stability is ensured in political, economic and administrative spheres in the country. The National Convention has made some progress in laying down principles to serve as base in drafting the State Constitution. Altogether 11 armed groups in the jungles have responded to the government offer, then returned to the legal fold and finally are implementing the regional development projects together with the government.

Economically, he said, short-term projects have been laid down and then implemented from 1992-93 to 1995-96. With the fulfilment of targets during the first and second years, firm economic bases have already been established, he said. Foreign nations are found to have invested more in the country and efforts are being mad3 with added momentum during the current fiscal year of 1994-95, the third which is designated as Allround Development Year. In the process, he said, cooperative societies are to play an important role. Cooperativie University and colleges are to be opened soon, he said. Cooperative undertakings, he said, have already engaged in agriculture, livestock breeding and fisheries and industries. They are also doing business in services such as transport, monetary and health care. In trading too, he said, they are making preparations to step up domestic and foreign trade. He urged cooperative societies to try their utmost as they are deeply involved in allround economic activities.

In conclusion, the Secretary-2 called on the cooperative societies to try to realize economic objectives of the State for the establishment of a modern and developed nation and also try to fulfil the objectives of the Cooperative Market Festival—to find markets through collective efforts, promote and preserve cultural traditions, develop commodity production, promote friendship and cooperation among cooperative societies and substitute imports.

[Passage omitted]

Ministry Sponsors Privatization Seminar

94SE0129A Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 18 May 94 p 6

[text][excerpts]-Yangon, 17 May-A Seminar on privatization jointly sponsored by Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and the Singapore firm KPMG Peat Marwick, Accountants, Auditors and Consultants, was held at the International Business Centre this morning. [Passage omitted]-Minister Brig-Gen Abel said privatization aims at progress of economic efficiency and promotion of competition among them and is one of the ways for progress of the State and its policies are being practised in the world.

He said that the privatization plays an important role in economic reforms in developing and some developed countries and Myanmar takes keen interest in it.

The Minister urged participants to exchange their views, experiences and solutions.

Altogether 150 participants of economic enterprises of various ministries and officials of Auditor-General's Office, Institute of Economics, the Union of Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd took part in the seminar.

Opium Refining Activities Reported

94WD0403B Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 18 May 94 p 6

[text]-There is fresh evidence that the Khun Sa group is very much active refining opium, producing its most deadly derivative, heroin, which eventually finds its way to capitals of countries where the perpetrator of drug-related problems still finds allies, for obvious reasons.

Acetic anhydride, the most potent of precursor chemicals in the refining process, was on its way in bulk toward the tri-border area where the rogue has his den when a lightning raid by the Tatmadaw sent the caravan people running for dear life.

The chemicals, in 126 plastic containers, measure over 3,333 litres. Calculating in terms of what those familiar with the process say, the end product would be 3,333 kilos of pure white heroin.

Where would the miscreant despatch that much of lethal powder? Wherever there is demand. That is why the Government here is pushing for demand reduction while striking at the root.

The interdiction of the chemical caravan also left 62 pack-saddles in the hands of the law-enforcers. Plain reasoning will help deduce that there were in the trail 62 pack horses/mules.

Knowing they must jettison their precious contraband in order to save their lives, Khun Sa's men had taken to mule-back riding, which they would not have done under normal circumstances. Moreover, they had not crossed the Thanlwin and were still far from where they were holed out.

There were earlier occasions, as divulged yesterday, when similar chemical contraband was seized, meaning the law enforcement personnel were able to deprive the refineries of the most essential element.

From time to time, opium and various other forms of opiates and even psychotropic substances which were seized through Tatmadaw and police checks were destroyed in the presence of local and foreign newsmen, diplomats and other guests.

There are times when the wholesale producer of heroin is portrayed as hero by the Western media. Seldom is he made a villain. The way we in Myanmar see it, those like him who perpetrate such atrocities against humanity must be villains.

Anyone with enough sense in his head would not bother to argue on his behalf. Plainly put, a drug man, and those who lend that person support of any measure, must be treated as intent on and actually doing harm to society world-wide.

Caught red-handed. Indicted.

Khin Nyunt Inspects New Hospitals

94SE0129C Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR in English 8 May 94 p 1

[text]-Yangon, 7 May—National Health Committee Chairman State Law and Order Restoration Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt today inspected Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital, Children's Hospital and Central Women's Hospital.

He inspected medical treatment, extension and renovation of buildings.

On arrival at Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital this morning, the Secretary-1 was welcomed there by Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Col Pe Thein, Chairman of yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay, Deputy Minister for Health Col Than Zin, Deputy Minister for Construction Col Aung San, Director-General at the State Law and Order Restoration Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein and heads of department, officials under the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Construction, the Deputy Medical Superintendent, doctors and nurses.

Deputy Minister Col Than Zin and Deputy Director-General of the Department of Health U Tin Wan reported on the staff, treatment, lay-out of wards, installation of equipment and sanitation, Senior Engineer U Soe Nyunt of the Public Works on construction services and officials concerned on water supply, landscaping and other matters.

The Secretary-1 called for efforts to be outstanding in medical treatment so that the hospital is turned into the one having model characteristics.

He pointed out the need to lay down rules to be a disciplined hospital and to make arrangements to enable the public to cooperate in keeping the hospital neat and tidy and in other services.

He then inspected the hospital.

He proceeded to the Children's Hospital where he was welcomed by Medical Superintendent U Saw G Aye Wai, specialists, doctors and nurses.

The MS briefed the Secretary-1 on medical treatment, extension and renovation of buildings, welfare for the staff and requirements, Senior Engineer U Aung Myint of the Public Works on renovation of buildings and Professor Surgeon Dr Maung Maung on the health of the twin sisters Aye Aye Nyein and Ei Ei Nyein.

After inspecting the hospital, the Secretary-1 chatted with Daw Hla Kyin, mother of LAye and Ei, and gave snacks to the twin brothers Ko Ko and Nyi Nyi.

The Secretary-1 also gave snacks to Aye and Ei and then inspected treatment at the hospital.

He later inspected the Out-Patient Department and renovation of nurses' hostel.

He next went to the Central Women's Hospital and was welcomed there by Medical Superintendent Dr Khin Mya Thwin, specialists and officials of Public Works.

At the hospital extension project site, the MS briefed him on medical treatment and requirements and Senior Engineer U Aung Kyaw Myint of the Public Works on work on a new building.

The Secretary-1 then inspected construction of the new building.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Russian Dumping of Arms Surplus Alleged

BK1306152294 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 12 Jun 94 p 2

[By Sufi Yusoff]

[Excerpts] Kuala Lumpur, Sat—Malaysia denied the move by Russia to sell 18 MiG-29 fighter jets was part of that country's surplus defence equipment, adding the decision to buy was after a thorough aircraft evaluation, and tough negotiations on securing the best contract.

Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Abdul Razak also denied that Russia was going to supply the air superiority fighter planes from its air force war surplus.

"What we will get will be new aircraft, and there is no question of dumping arms here to revive the so-called ailing Russian defence industry," he told the NEW SUNDAY TIMES here.

"We made a thorough evaluation of the aircraft before finally deciding on the purchase for the Royal Malaysian Air Force [RMAF]," he said.

The negotiations for the US$550 million (RM1,419 million) [RM—ringgit Malaysia] deal to be paid in cash and barter involving palm oil began two years ago. Seventy five per cent of the payment would be in cash and the rest in palm oil.

He was commenting on a AFP report last Thursday, quoting Russian political commentator Rustam Narzikulov as saying in the authoritive newspaper, SEVODNYA, that the June 7 contract amounted to dumping of Russian military technology on the world market. [passage omitted]

Najib said Narzikulov's statement was unfair criticism especially he was not aware of the tough evaluation of the aircraft by the RMAF and the protracted negotiations.

Under the contract, the RMAF had extracted a guarantee on the supply of spare parts, engine reliability and performance, integration of Soviet avionics with Western equipment, and the installation of the most advanced weapons systems.

Asked if Malaysia would have problems getting spare parts if the defence industries were to close down, he said: "I cannot comment on Russia's ailing defence industry, but under the deal, the Russian Government has made a commitment to supply us with the necessary spare parts."

He further said the success of the deal was as important to Malaysia as it was to Russia, and this alone would ensure they would not fumble on their contract commitments.

"This is because they see Malaysia as a stepping stone for them to break into the lucrative regional arms market," he said.

He added spare parts for the MiG-29s were easily available in other former Warsaw pact countries which are operating the aircraft, and India which has 60 such jets.

He said the contract, which stipulated the setting up of a US$220 million (RM572 million) Technical Service Center [TSC] on a joint venture basis between the government, the aircraft manufacturer, and the Russian defence export agency, was also another strategy to ensure adequate supplies of spare parts.

He said if it was economically viable, the TSC, to be set up after the arrival of the first MiG-29 next April would jointly manufacture certain aircraft components.

Najib also clarified the value of the deal was closer to US$550 million, and not US$600 (RM1.56 billion) as some newspapers had reported.

On the report which said Moscow chopped off US$65 million (RM169 million) from the initial price tag to clinch the deal, he said, a certain amount of "discounts" had been obtained in the process of negotiations.

However, he declined to say how much. [passage omitted]

Japan Agrees To Provide Loan for Airport

BK1306152794 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Japan has agreed to provide a 1.5 billion ringgit [Malaysian currency] soft loan to Malaysia for the construction of an airport from which British firms have been shut out.

Hideki Tanaka, a director of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, OECF, which is extending the credit facility to Malaysia, said the loan could be signed between the end of this month and early July. It will be repaid over 25 years with a three percent annual interest.

The OECF, a non-profit body under Japan's Finance Ministry, regularly extends long-term loans at a low interest rate to help emerging economies in Southeast Asia and other developing countries. The Japanese fund has so far provided 15 loan packages to Malaysia with more than U.S.$5.1 billion since 1966, mostly for infrastructure projects.

Tanaka said the loan for the new Kuala Lumpur international airport followed a personal request by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed to his former Japanese counterpart, Kiichi Miyazawa, in January last year.

Mahathir Urges Continued Investment

BK1406023094 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0933 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Melaka (Malaysia), June 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed said Monday that foreign investors particularly those from Taiwan should have no fear about investing in Malaysia as it does not oppress the Chinese community.

Some of the Taiwan investors had such fear and even considered Malaysia unsuitable for their investment because in the past there had been reports which depicted Malaysia as a country facing the problem of racial conflicts.

However, Taiwanese investors who came to Malaysia found the reports to be not true and there were no racial conflicts or oppression against the Chinese community, Dr Mahathir said when opening the [Malaysian ringgit] RM1,200 million (US$1 = RM2.6) Ornaetel Corporation (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd [private limited] factory at Air Keroh, near here.

We are not like other countries which oppress the Chinese community and we treat everyone equally. We support the opening of Chinese schools and there are no restrictions against the Chinese community, he said.

According to Dr Matathir, the Chinese community was the most prosperous in the world and there were Malaysian Chinese who were very much involved in business activities both locally and overseas.

He said Taiwan had contributed much to Malaysia's development and industrialisation process through its investment which at one time was the biggest when compared to that from other countries.

Malaysia at one time was merely a raw material producer such as tin and this could not contribute towards Malaysia becoming an industrialist nation.

Hence Malaysia sought a shortcut and invited foreign investors bringing along with them heavy and modern technology.

At present many investors from Europe, Japan, Taiwan, the United States and Australia and in fact from nearly the whole world have invested in Malaysia and have directly contributed towards its development, Dr Mahathir said.

No one who wants to work need be unemployed in Malaysia; at present more than one million foreigners have come to Malaysia either legally or illegally to work in this country because the wages offered are very much higher than in their own countries, Dr Mahathir said.

The presence of these foreigners in itself proved Malaysia's success, he said.

Responding to questions from Taiwan journalists covering the event, Dr Mahathir said the Malaysian Government welcomed the Look South policy of the Taiwan Government as it would draw more investors from Taiwan to invest in Malaysia.

Action Against Missionary Group To Be Taken

BK1406034294 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 12 Jun 94 p 7

[Text] Kampung Gajah, Sat.—The Government will take firm action against the Al-Arqam missionary group, including restricting its activities and possibly detaining its leaders, Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob said today.

He said the group's activities had reached a level which could divide Muslims and create tensions in the country. He said there were also elements of excessive devotion shown by some Al-Arqam members who appeared to believe that the group's leader Ashari Mohamed was the only person qualified to administer the country.

"Such elements could create tension among the Malays and cause fear among non-Muslims to the extent of undermining national security," he told reporters after opening the Bukit Chawi UMNO [United Malays National Organization] branch general meeting here.

He said Al-Arqam had 10,000 committed members who were prepared to do anything on the orders of their leaders apart from 100,000 ordinary followers.

Megat Junid said Al-Arqam members had taken to calling Ashari "Abu Ya" (father) and were willing to do whatever he commanded for fear of being accused as traitors.

The ministry was working with the Islamic Centre to investigate the activities of Al-Arqam and 40 other missionary groups from the social and security aspects before taking further action, he added. He said the government assimilated Islamic values without force and provided good models to let non-Muslims make their own evaluation.

Asked whether Al-Arqam had been warned over its deviations, he said the government was waiting for the result of the Islamic Centre's investigation.

He said there had been occurrences of religious fanaticism in the past such as the destruction of temple images in Kerling and the attack on a police station in Batu Pahat which led to deaths.

"So the government does not want the activities of Al-Arqam and other missionary groups to cause a repeat of such incidents," he said.

Megat Junid also revealed the activity of a missionary group which practised recitations in candle-light and accompanied by the playing of drums and clarinets.

"Members of this group include the wives of well-to-do people and businessmen," he added. He said the group was motivated by self-gain and greed.

Cambodia

Foreign Minister Discusses Current Situation

BK1106131794 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0413 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Phnom Penh 11 Jun (AKP)—Prince Norodom Sirivut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign

He also said: North Korea's duty to undergo IAEA nuclear inspections is not a requirement as a member of the IAEA, but as a party concerned to the NPT. Therefore, North Korea's latest measure is evaluated to be nothing but a political message simply aimed at achieving symbolic effects.

President Kim: Not Surprising

SK1406101894 Seoul YONHAP in English 1012 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said on Tuesday North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was not anything surprising but was anticipated when the IAEA adopted sanctions against them recently.

"The withdrawal appears to be the initiative taken to avoid the disgrace of their being kicked out of the atomic energy agency," the president said.

While meeting with a group of 15 Mindan (pro-Seoul Korean Residents Association in Japan) leaders at Chongwadae [presidential offices], President Kim said that thus far there had been no signs of unusual military movement in North Korea.

He said Pyongyang's withdrawal from the IAEA seems directed against South Korea and the United States—the United States in particular.

The president noted that the withdrawal was announced at 11 p.m. Korea time Monday, which was a morning hour in the east of the United States.

Later in the day, President Kim met leading American businessmen who were in Seoul attending the seventh Korea-U.S. business conference.

Kim called on the visitors to invest more in Korea, saying there would be no problem in investment in Korea thanks to durable peace brought about by a firm cooperative system between South Korea and the United States.

The government would ease investment conditions and deregulate control so that foreign businesses would find it easier to do business in Korea, the president was quoted as saying by Chongwadae spokesman Chu Ton-sik.

Han Dismisses Threat

SK1406111394 Seoul YONHAP in English 1056 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Seoul, June 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Tuesday that North Korea is still subjected to all the obligations of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) because there has been no official notification by North Korea to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

In a press conference at the Foreign Correspondents Club, Minister Han also said "IAEA inspectors are still in North Korea and they should continue to be there to do their job."

Han said that the doors are still open to dialogues, although "the possibility seems much less now than several weeks ago."

"We still hope that North Korea would come to talks with South Korea, the IAEA and the United States. At the moment, North Koreans alone can ask that," said Han. "But North Korea should provide due grounds to have such dialogues."

On the question of possible military strike against the North being mentioned by U.S. medias, Han said that "nobody is discussing military strikes at this time."

Asked about the reports of the imminency of war or military confrontation, Han said, "We are making sure destruction does not take place. We take necessary measures. Despite war talks, there is no reason to worry about the outbreak of hostilities."

Han dismissed the North's words of threat, saying "That's just a scare tactics. We cannot base our response on the very irresponsible threat the very irresponsible country is making."

Minister Han said, however, that the resolution to be adopted by the U.N. Security Council should be more than symbolic one, adding "stronger resolution is needed" to make the North to comply with the international demands for complete inspection.

On the role of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in the nuclear standoff, Han hoped Carter would let the North Koreans know how seriously does the international community regard the situation.

"He did not tell me what he would tell the North Koreans. But I think he would tell the North how the world would react to the nuclear issue. I expect him to have very serious discussions with North Korean leaders," he said.

The very existence of any nuclear weapons in the North could be a threat in itself because of the possibility of their use and also because it may start proliferation in this region, said Han, adding "it would be a clear danger to us."

On the report that China would support the North in the event of war, Han said that he could not give credibility to such report.

Stressing that China has been playing a constructive role in the nuclear issue, Han said "Obviously, we do not know what the Chinese attitude will be," adding that he believes it would depend on how the North Koreans would respond to the whole process.

affairs and international cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, returned to Phnom Penh on 9 June after a month-long tour, from May 7th onward, of France and EC countries.

On his return to Phnom Penh he said that "foreign military aid to the government army to fight Khmer Rouge rebels will bring stability but will not affect the peace process in the country."

In the meantime, Prince Norodom Sirivut attended the 11th conference of nonaligned countries, held from 31 May to 3 June, in Cairo (Egypt). During his stay in France he specified that he had asked for French aid for the Cambodian Army. "When we asked for military assistance, it was not that we wanted to aggravate the situation; we want stability," added Prince Norodom Sirivut.

Australia, France, and the United States are discussing the request to train and equip some 160,000 government combatants. The Khmer Rouge have vigorously condemned all foreign aid.

Prince Norodom Sirivut reaffirmed that the royal government does not however want to continue the war against the rebels. According to him, the government and Cambodia's king, His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, are trying to bring the guerrillas into the national community.

Cambodia's chief diplomat also pointed out that he has received a 10-point proposal from the Thai Army aimed at settling border problems between the two countries.

"I am very happy to hear about this proposal from the Thai Army; it is a good proposal; I appreciate it," said the prince without giving further details.

Foreign Media Urged To Give True Reports

BK1306144794 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 13 Jun 94 p 2

[From the "Comment" column: "Peace Return, Vultures Flock Back"]

[Text] The businessmen in Singapore, Bangkok, Tokyo and London who see the evening news on television and read their morning papers, all share a common viewpoint—there is a terrible war going on in Cambodia and they feel compelled to invest their money in other countries.

Why such a negative view of Cambodia when peace is a reality and the Khmer Rouge are nothing more than bandits engaging in skirmishes with the Royal Army?

The answer lies with the foreign media who are vultures looking for carcasses. The foreign press are busy painting gory scenes of Cambodia, because even before the echoes of the resounding booms of artillery die down, more gunfire reports pour in.

Newspapers throughout the world resonate with "news" of the unfortunate war-ridden country, spewing out information, more information and even more information. In the process of tarnishing this country, foreign newsmen emerge as heroes to their employers, to other pressmen and to their own countries.

Meanwhile, in a small country, fighting the skirmishes of war and making valiant attempts to recover from its 20-year history of factional rivalry, Cambodia has also to contend with an enemy from within, namely the Western press it plays host to.

News reports are rife around the world about the country beset by war after war, although what Cambodia is currently facing are isolated incidents of skirmishes between guerrillas and the government of the day.

The Western defenders of rights and morality who constantly pound their Eastern lesser neighbours to a pulp over issues of rights, have no social conscience.

Why is it Westerners can lay claim to having an active conscience when it cannot even help salvage a country from its destituteness, but instead destroy it even more.

Why are pressmen who are usually so inhibited in their home country, and now let loose in a foreign country, suddenly indulging and even encouraging all hell to break loose.

Skirmishes are brought to a proportion larger than life when newsmen stationed in far-flung countries sending news to their headquarters, want to appear battle-fatigued in the eyes of their headquarter editors. In every foreign correspondent lurks a Rambo, waiting to shoot off his pen.

In addition to that, news correspondents have to battle stories generated from countries which have more to boast about than skirmishes—real on-going, full scale wars in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, Afghanistan, just to name a few. So competition amongst foreign correspondents to churn out the goriest, most sensational, most destabilising stories is a real fact of being 'one-up' on the competitor.

Hence, the more gory, sensational and the more colourful a scene is painted, enables the foreign correspondents to appear even more heroic.

There is a time and a place for everything, and the time has passed for self-inflicted heroics.

It is time to do something constructive for the country instead of running it down. Perhaps the Western self-proclaimed protectors of the masses may consider writing the truth instead, if they cannot condescend to defending the masses of Cambodia and develop the country's needs.

Hun Sen Told of Need To Ease Investments

BK1406071694 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0427 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Phnom Penh 14 Jun (AKP)—Mr. Chin Siat Yoon, Singaporean ambassador to Cambodia, emphasized the need to faciliate the investments of Singaporean companies in Cambodia.

Singapore's diplomat was received by Samdech Hun Sen, second prime minister of the Royal Government, in Phnom Penh on 10 June. Bilateral cooperation and especially Singapore's investments in Cambodia were at the center of the discussions.

Mr. Chin Siat Yoon disclosed the commitment of his government to help Cambodia achieve economic development.

"Cambodia must strengthen its cooperation with Singapore, declared Samdech Hun Sen, particularly in the construction of an airport and a port." Scholarships on management training will be given by Singapore to future personnel of these projects.

The second prime minister informed his guest of the current situation in Cambodia, assuring him that the government is capable of maintaining security in the country.

New Board To Settle Local,Disputes

BK1406053294 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 12-18 Jun 94 pp,1, 2

[Text] Phnom Penh—Any dispute relating to foreign or local investments in this nation shall be brought by either party for conciliation to the Cambodian Investment Board (CIB).

CIB, as provided for under the yet to be ratified Investment Law of the Kingdom of Cambodia, is empowered to provide its opinion on the settlement of disputes. However, as far as possible, the disputes should be settled amicably through consultation between the parties in question.

Should CIB not render any opinion within one month from the first request to provide such an opinion, or in the event of a disagreement by one of the parties with the opinion, the dispute shall be definitely settled through binding arbitration here, in accordance with the rules of the United Nations Commission for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). This shall apply unless other arbitration procedures and places have been agreed upon by the parties or are provided for under an international treaty.

In the event an approved company intends to end its activity in the kingdom, it will have to inform the CIB through an official letter, mentioning the reasons for such a decision.

The Audit Department of the Cambodian Development Council (CDC), shall have the responsibility of examining the cause of the dissolution intent and also to ensure that the company's potential creditors, suitors and taxes are properly settled before the entity can be officially dissolved.

Once the company's liabilities are being settled, it can transfer the remaining proceeds of its assets overseas or use them in the kingdom.

However, in the event that the dissolving company had used machineries and equipment which were imported duty free for less than three years, the company will have the obligation to pay the duties applicable to those machineries and equipment.

Among the incentives provided for by the Investment Law is the provision for a corporate tax rate of nine percent, non-taxation on the distribution of dividends or profits or proceeds of investments. A corporate tax exemption of up to eight years depending on the characteristics of the project and the priority of the government will also be considered. The corporate tax exemption shall be applicable from the year the project derives its first profits and a five-year loss carried forward shall be allowed where applicable.

These are some of the provisions made in (?39 sections of the) "Investment Law of the Kingdom of Cambodia" which will act as the catalyst for industrial and investment growth in this nation.

SRV Embassy's Criticism of Deaths Viewed

BK1306145894 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 12-18 Jun 94 p 2

[By Uk Kimseng]

[Text] Phnom Penh—Two Vietnamese immigrants have been killed at a fishing lot at Plalay Meas, Kompong Chhnang Province, which is 90 kms north of the capital city.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, through its embassy here, held the Khmer Rouge guerrillas accountable for the massacre.

The Embassy's open letter, received here recently, said an armed group of the Khmer Rouge stopped the fishing boat belonging to Le Van Tuong, 80, and his son Le Van Thanh, 20, who were claimed to have lived here for a very long time.

The guerrillas were reported to have abducted the two Vietnamese and beaten them to death on the heads with rowing oars.

The dead bodies were found afloat in the river recently by the bereaved family who were searching for the missing members, according to the Embassy.

The Embassy has criticised the local police for delaying further investigation when informed by a representative of the Vietnamese immigrants.

The Embassy also said another four Vietnamese residents were missing recently and their names and whereabouts have not been verified yet.

The Vietnamese government looks forward to assistance from the Royal Government in investigating and taking effective measures to prevent the recurrence of the incident.

As far as illegal immigration is concerned a number of newspapers here strongly condemned the Vietnamese government for what they call encouraging Vietnamese migration to this country, while the Royal Government has not been able to tackle the problems of mismanagement and loose administrations within the concerned authorities.

The newspaper SAKOL recently said "the influx of Vietnamese immigrants into this country reveals the long-term objective of the late communist hardliner 'Ho Chi Minh' who wished to annex and swallow Cambodia two decades ago".

"There are new Vietnamese squatters at Chrang Chamres, near Monivong Bridge, who cannot speak a word in the Khmer language," the paper reported.

The paper accused the Royal Government of being indifferent to the increasing number of illegal immigrants.

However, the Royal Government has managed to resolve some of these immigration problems.

Reports from Takeo Province said about 50 armed Vietnamese people have agreed to withdraw from Boreicholasa District where they came from and did farming without the knowledge or permission of the host district governor.

Previously, they illegally encroached on the nation's territory 70 metres deep and 1,500 metres long for rice farming.

After several rounds of negotiations, the two governors of Takeo-Cambodia and An Giang-Vietnam finally reached a solution.

It should be noted that the National Assembly has already adopted the Immigration Law but the implementation is rather slow.

King Sihanouk Appeals for End to Civil War

BK1406071494 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0423 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Phnom Penh 14 Jun (AKP)—Following is the declaration made on 10 June by His Majesty the King of Cambodia:

"This week in Cambodia, the civil war that, alas, continues to rage and that pits units of the Cambodian Royal Armed Forces against those of the Khmer Rouge, has produced hundreds of victims among our innocent civilian compatriots, that is, nearly 100 killed and more than 100 seriously wounded (men and women and old, adults, and children) not to mention scores of the slightly wounded and those who have survived but who have lost everything (houses burned, rice, fowl, and cattle lost, and so on)...

"In this civil war that, alas, slowly but surely advances through our motherland and pushes our people toward certain death, there is not nor will there be any victor or vanquished among the belligerents on either side. There is and will be only a great loser, the innocent little people of Cambodia.

"I appeal to all belligerents to have pity for these people who, for 24 years now, have suffered and still suffer so much.

"I ask them to please totally, immediately, and permanently end their war.

"Only total peace in Cambodia can save our motherland, our people, and our race from disappearing from the world map and the universal history."

King: No New Offer if Roundtable Fails

BK1406083194 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 0500 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] On 12 June, His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia, graciously wrote a message to his beloved children, grandchildren, and compatriots. The content of this message is as follows:

Dear compatriots, the inter-Cambodian conference for peace and national reconciliation or the so-called Pyongyang roundtable ended with a negative result following a day's discussion because Democratic Kampuchea [DK] representing by His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan refused to accept my proposal for an unconditional, immediate, complete, and permanent cease-fire for the sake of the entire Cambodian nation and people despite repeated appeals from Supreme Patriarch Tep Vong, Supreme Patriarch Buo Kri, Venerable Khousananda, and Venerable Patriarch Mongkol Tepeacha. The DK party replied that before such a cease-fire is imposed, the Royal Government must first accept a minimal policy program of the DK party.

Therefore, the second roundtable to be held at the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh on 15 June 1994 under the chairmanship of Samdech Chakkrei Nhoek Chulong, my high representative, and with the participation of the representatives of Samdech Chea Sim, Prince

Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, Samdech Hun Sen, and H.E. Khieu Samphan will first discuss that minimal policy program.

But if following a hard discussion at the roundtable at the Phnom Penh Royal Palace there is still the same failure as at the Chhanghsu-on roundtable in Pyongyang, I, Norodom Sihanouk, will not propose any other roundtables.

Any person or party responsible for the war in Cambodia [words indistinct] must be responsible for his/its actions before the nation, people, and history of Cambodia.

I deeply regret that certain persons or certain parties still place personal interests and ambitions above the interests of their own motherland, people, and race. If these persons and parties place the noble and vital interests of Cambodia and those of the Cambodian people above their own interests and ambitions, Cambodia will quickly return to the noble state that it was in the Angkorian times.

Dear compatriots, please accept my sincerity and enjoy five blessings of Lord Buddha for longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment.

Hun Sen Sees 'No Hope' of Success in Talks

BK1406062894 Bangkok BANGKOK POST (INSIDE INDOCHINA Supplement) in English 14 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Brian Hansford in Phnom Penh]

[Text] For Cambodian second prime minister Hun Sen, history is everything.

He is optimistic about Cambodia's situation compared with that in the 1980s when he was the communist state's prime minister. But he is pessimistic about achieving a peaceful agreement with the group he calls an "historical inheritance", the Khmer Rouge, a group which begins another round of talks with the government in Phnom Penh tomorrow.

"There is no hope. Not little hope but no hope," said Hun Sen, referring to Wednesday's discussions.

"I'm almost fed up with talking to the Khmer Rouge. What I am doing is in accordance with the king's wishes. At least we would like to use the last chance for peace in Cambodia," he said in an exclusive interview last week.

Hun Sen gave the same gloomy message before leaving for last month's failed Cambodian peace talks in North Korea. The reason for such pessimism is Khmer Rouge strategy.

"I have a document written by Pol Pot and received in late March. The Khmer Rouge goal is to increase its armed forces to 25,000 in two years from May 1994 to May 1996 and step to the stage of offensive," Hun Sen said.

Government information ministry spokesman Sieng La Presse said the guerrillas were trying to recruit villagers in Cambodia's north and west by offering money to volunteers and their families.

Despite recent military setbacks by government troops, particularly the rapid Khmer Rouge recapture of Pailin, Hun Sen claims the guerrillas are very weak.

"After their non-participation in the (UNTAC) peace process their strength has decreased equal to that of the 1970s," he said, referring to the Khmer Rouge remnants who fled the advancing Vietnamese army in 1979 after Hanoi's invasion toppled Pol Pot.

Sources close to the Khmer Rouge acknowledge supply problems but independent military analysts say the guerrillas can still total 20,000 troops including militia, although regular troops are estimated at 8,000.

But no matter its size, the Khmer Rouge remains active. The way to beat it, according to Hun Sen, is with a mixture of military stick and social progress.

"The powerful grenade which can destroy the guerrilla is development of the economy and society.

"We will not stand on one foot. We will stand on both—meaning we will not use the gun and abandon development or develop our country and abandon the gun, but use both ways," he said.

Using "both ways" has meant Cambodian leaders asking for weapons. Foreign countries have responded cautiously to these requests, fearing an escalating civil war as the arms are sold to Khmer Rouge by corrupt, undisciplined Phnom Penh troops.

King Sihanouk described Cambodians as "champions of corruption before he left Phnom Penh 1 month, but Hun Sen sees corruption of government forces to a less extent.

"There is some corruption but not to the extent that all military aid would be sold to the Khmer Rouge even though we feel we have strengthen the discipline and efficiency of the army," he said.

Foreign countries which refuse to supply weapons could help in other ways, he said, hinting at military indiscipline problems which King Sihanouk recently said were alienating Cambodian villagers.

"Those countries who are concerned military aid will be sold to the Khmer Rouge can help us set up military training schools and also camps. The army does not have camps and stays in people's house so it is very difficult to control it, Hun Sen said.

He wants to throw the Khmer Rouge out of its Phnom Penh compound which it maintains under Cambodia's 1991 peace agreement. The government has already cut the guerrillas land and mobile telephone lines and state officials have banned guerrilla press conferences.

"I would like to outlaw them and force them to leave their compound as long as they do not participate in society there is no need to keep them as one political organisation," he said.

This will be debated by Cambodia's parliament at its next sitting.

Reports of Hun Sen's wanting to formally outlaw the guerrilla group are not new in Phnom Penh. But somewhat surprising during last week's interview was the Cambodian leader's conciliatory remarks toward Thailand.

When the Khmer Rouge recaptured its Pailin base on April 18, Cambodia's second prime minister accused Thailand of helping the guerrillas and threatened to raise the issue at the United Nations. Cambodia's First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and other Phnom Penh officials have repeatedly spoken of Thai "interference". But last week Hun Sen was more diplomatic.

"I suggest you should clearly quote my words. My concern is that there might be a misunderstanding between Phnom Penh and Bangkok. Thailand recognises only the royal government," the premier said. "The border is long. There are bad men from Thailand who hide themselves in Cambodia and there could be bad men from Cambodia hiding in Thailand. The Khmer Rouge problem is the aftermath of history," he said.

But for all Hun Sen's measured diplomacy the scale of the illicit border trade in logs and gems between Thai companies and the guerrillas remains a major worry.

The premier said country-to-country talks would always be the most effective way to solve Cambodia's border problems with all its neighbours, not just Thailand.

But he does not object to America raising concerns, at the ASEAN meeting in Bangkok in July, about alleged Thai support for the Khmer Rouge.

"A bilateral solution is the basic solution. That does not mean I oppose any talks by the foreign minister of America with ASEAN. The 1991 peace agreement's third part mentions guarantees of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia," he said.

Hun Sen has changed his rhetoric of conflict with Thailand into that of measured diplomacy. But there were no words of conciliation for his former comrades, the Khmer Rouge, a group he fled from in 1977 after almost 10 years in the revolution.

"I do not understand those who accuse me of being a hardliner toward the Khmer Rouge, I just raise the question of whether to arrest the thief and imprison it or leave it to live with the people," Hun Sen said.

NADK Reports'Control' of Nine Villages

BK1406020294 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] On 11 June the people and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] swept the invading forces of the two-headed government from Toek Chum commune to Spean Treng and from Prasat commune to Phnum Liep commune in Preah Net Preah District, Battambang Province. We completely liberated and and now control this area including the following nine villages: Rouch, Spean, Toek Chum, Cha, Kouk Siem, Toek Haoch, Aumal, Anlung Cha, and Bat Trang.

We killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers and seized 15 assorted firearms and a quantity of ammunition and war materiel.

The people also joined hands in destroying the Phnum Liep bridge to deprive the communist Vietnamese puppets and two-headed government of its use for transporting troops and ammunition in their operations to persecute, kill, and rob the local people.

Paper Claims Officials Help Log Smugglers

BK1206123394 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 12 Jun 94 pp 1, 9

[Column by Samret Sar: "The Logging War in Koh Kong Province Has Not Ended Yet. Who Should Be Responsible?"]

[Text] According to a report from Koh Kong Province, in an operation launched on the night of 8 June, the combined ministerial team for cracking down on illegal smuggling along the Sre Ambel Pass held up a barge trying to smuggle processed wood out of the country.

The head of the team reported: While we were holding up the barge, three motor boats from Koh Kong Province's combined team (one of which belongs to the provincial office of forestry and wildlife) led by Ung Voan, second deputy governor of Koh Kong, surrounded the inter-ministerial team's motor boat, directing all their spotlights on it as a threat. Seeing that it was outnumbered by the Koh Kong provincial team, the combined ministerial team then released the timber barge.

The report added that the inter-ministerial team also saw 22 other timber barges tagging after the provincial boats out of that area.

This is the second time this week that the Koh Kong provincial team helped the timber barges get out of Andong Toek area, claiming that it would take action against the barges after bringing them to Koh Kong Province. In the first event on 4 June, the Koh Kong team brought 12 barges carrying about 400 cubic meters of processed wood out of this area, claiming that it would take action against the barges when they returned to Koh

Kong Province. But not a single timber barge was seen in Koh Kong. When asked about it, the provincial team said that all the barges fled along the way.

The report said that these 23 barges carried a total of 750 cubic meters of processed wood.

The sources of the inter-ministerial team reported that the timber carried in the 23 barges were worth about 5,500,000 Thai baht or 750 million riel.

It is not yet known whether this second batch of timber barges will arrive in Koh Kong or not since the first batch already failed to arrive. And if they do not arrive there, what measures will the Ministry of Interior take against Mr. Ung Voan?

The logging war in Koh Kong Province is still going on so terrifyingly. The bad consequences of such anarchy will only cause more complicated problems and distrust.

Those who have kept a close watch on this matter say: In such a situation, who will listen to whom and who is to be responsible for all the bad consequences?

King Asks To Have Sick Prisoners Released

BK1306114194 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1001 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP June 13—His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk has asked the government to release women and sick prisoners from its jails.

In his statement dated on June 10 and faxed from his residence in Beijing to the Cambodian co-premiers the king said,

"this current report brings me to ask that you free, for humanitarian reasons, the very sick prisoners and more particularly those who, in general, have not committed serious crimes or violent crimes".

"Many defendants who are particularly impoverished, notably the women, have stagnated in preventative detention for months or even years awaiting judgement", Sihanouk said in the statement, which was dated Friday.

Sihanouk said the freeing of sick prisoners would enable the country's penal authorities to improve prison conditions while waiting to find adequate financial means for the creation of new detention centres".

Board To Decide on Investment Projects

BK1306105494 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 12-18 Jun 94 pp 1, 2

[By T. Mohan]

[Text] Phnom Penh—The Cambodian Investment Board [CIB], as the operational body of the Cambodian Development Council, will be empowered to render its decision on a normal investment project within 45 days from the day it receives the completed application form with all the relevant information, including feasibility and profitability studies.

The CIB, which will also be entrusted with the implementation of the soon to be ratified Investment Law of the Kingdom of Cambodia, shall also publish its decision on the promotion of investment projects.

To enable this, it is empowered to inform potential foreign and local investors on the investment opportunities inn the kingdom, promote, analyse, evaluate and approve investment projects, study and identify investment and economic strategies, and assist and facilitate foreign and local investors by making the board a one-stop service organisation.

In addition to this, the CIB shall also issue an Investment Promotion Certificate to the promoted company in which the benefits and obligations of the company in one or more areas shall be clearly stated.

This ranges from amount and origin of capital, nationality of the investors and the number of shareholders and directors, the number of local and foreign staff, training schedules of local nationals, to details on the implementation schedule and details on benefits incentives granted.

The Investment Law, which is implemented by the CIB, shall govern investments made by foreign and local investors within the territory of the kingdom.

For the purpose of this law, investors may be either a person or a corporate entity.

Investments may be made in any economic activity or sector provided they have received prior written approval from the board and do not fall under section 16 of the law.

Section 16 of the law states that the CIB will not grant its approval on projects where activities and sectors are forbidden by the Constitution of the Kingdom, those listed in the restricted list issued by the board and that which involves trading and activities which the board has confirmed by written notice to be under the responsibility of the Ministry of Commerce.

The Investment Law also supersedes any other existing investment law and calls for non-discriminatory treatment of both local and foreign nationals in respect to all rights, benefits, guarantees and obligations attendant to their investments, except for ownership of land as specified in the said law.

Under the law, the government has guaranteed that it shall not expropriate, nationalise or take any measures having the same or similar effect with respect to investments established in this nation.

The government shall not impose price control on the products or services of the promoted company.

The Investment Law of the Kingdom of Cambodia stipulates the guideline on the benefits and obligations related to private investments here.

Its objective is to attract investments that could sustain the economic development of this nation and contribute to the building of a strong and dynamic private sector.

It is also designed to boost the competitive advantage of this nation among other nations, through a pragmatic economic policy in line with the spirit of the free market system in which the government will act as the facilitator of the private sector.

Indonesia

Alatas Said in Good Condition After Surgery

BK1306151294 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1436 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Jakarta, June 13 (ANTARA)—A three-hour heart operation on Ali Alatas in Melbourne, Australia, has been successful, and the foreign minister is now in a very good condition, chief information officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jakarta Irawan Abidin said.

"Today the foreign minister underwent a cardiac by-pass surgery, and he is in a splended condition," he said in Jakarta Monday night.

Alatas got a minor heart attack on May 23, which unabled him to attend a number of conferences abroad, including the Ministerial Meeting of the Nonaligned Movement in Cairo early in June.

Ali Alatas is being treated at Edworth Hospital, a leading heart operation centre in Australia.

Alatas was in the company of his wife, aide Slamet Udi, and head of the General Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Ministry.

3-Day Air Defence Exercise Finishes 10 Jun

BK1306163194 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1451 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Jakarta, Jun 13 (ANTARA)—The three-day air defence exercise dubbed "Cakra A/94" involving F-5E Tiger II and A-4 Sky Hawk tactical jet aircraft, wound up in Jakarta Friday last week.

National Air Defence Command (Kohanudnas) spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Widoso Sabarno said in Jakarta Monday that the exercise took place in the air territory under the Air Defence Sector Command I [Roman numeral one] covering Jakarta and its surroundings.

Also taking part in the event, he added, were a number of C-130 Hercules giant transport planes and Boeing 707 aircraft, in addition to radar units, with Flight Lieutenant Colonel Tahir Harita in charge of control and supervision.

Widoso said the main purpose of the exercise was to enhance the combat readiness of the air defence potential of the particular region.

The ability and preparedness in the detection, control, and interception of enemy aircraft under the air defence operation procedures and control command mechanism, have really been tested during the exercise, he said.

The exercise was also to train combat pilots in quick reaction, target identification, action against a target including cashing [as received] away, forcing to land up to shooting down, Widoso said.

In the exercise, the A-4 Sky Hawks acted as the enemy, flying from their base in Pekanbaru, Riau, for penetration to Jakarta.

The A-4 jets were detected by ground radar, then 'met' by the F-5 combat planes, and eventually chased away.

The exercise was officially closed by Kohanudnas Commander Rear Marshal Sujitno.

Laos

SLORC Chairman Than Shwe Ends Official Visit

Visit Said 'Glorious Success'

BK1306144394 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] After ending with glorious success a five-day official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], His Excellency [H.E.] Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], his wife, and a high-level delegation of the Union of Myanmar left Vientiane for home this morning. A ceremony to bid farewell to H.E. Than Shwe, his wife, and delegation was held at the Hokham Presidential Office in Vientiane at 0740. Attending the ceremony were H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR, and his wife; H.E. Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee; H.E. Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs; H.E. Choummali Sai-gnason, minister of national defense; H.E. Sisavat Keobounphan, minister of agriculture and forestry; and H.E. Thongdam Chanthaphon, minister and chief of the Presidential Office; along with ministers, deputy ministers, and many high-ranking cadres. Also on hand to see the Myanmar delegation off at the airport was H.E. Kideng Thammavong, ambassador of the LPDR to the Union of Myanmar.

During the five-day visit to Laos, H.E. Than Shwe and his delegation called on and held talks with H.E. Nouhak

Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR, and delegation. They also paid a courtesy call on H.E. Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and prime minister of the LPDR. Following the meeting and talks, three cooperation agreements were jointly signed. In addition, the high-level delegation of the Union of Myanmar visited several cultural and production establishments in Vientiane and Luang Prabang Provinces. It also viewed and paid respects to the That Louang Pagoda, Sisaket, and Phakeo Temples in Vientiane. The Myanmar delegation also visited the friendship bridge across the Mekong River and the Multiethnic Cultural Park in Vientiane Municipality.

At the farewell ceremony at the Hokham Presidential Office, H.E. Than Shwe expressed thanks to H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, wife, and delegation for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation in an atmosphere of fraternal and neighborly friendship and profound mutual understanding.

Joint Communique Issued

BK1406012594 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Joint Communique issued on the visit of Burma's Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, to the Lao People's Democratic Republic—place and date not given]

[Text] Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC [State Law and Restoration Council] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], paid a goodwill visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] from 9 to 13 June at the invitation of Laotian President Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan. Sr. Gen. Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, were accompanied by Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1, and wife Dr. Khin Win Shwe; Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture; Brigadier General D.O. Abel, minister of national planning and economic development; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs, and wife; Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information; and senior responsible personnel. The SLORC chairman and his delegation were warmly welcomed by the host country, reflecting the existing friendly relations between the neighbors.

During his visit, Sr. Gen. Than Shwe called on Mr. Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, and held friendly and cordial talks. Sr. Gen. Than Shwe also met and held talks with Laotian President Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan. At the meeting, the leaders held friendly, cordial, and constructive talks on matters relating to bilateral relations and international matters of common interest. The talks were conducted with full understanding.

Also present at the meeting were Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1; Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture; Brig. Gen. D.O. Abel, minister of national planning and economic development; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs; Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information; and U Maung Maung Lay, Myanmar ambassador to Laos. Present on the Laotian side were Lt. Gen. Choummali Sai-gnason, minister of national defense; Mr. Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs; Mr. Sisavat Keobounphan, minister of agriculture and forestry; Mr. Thongdam Chanthaphon, minister and head of the Presidential Office; Mr. Bounteng Vongsai, acting minister of information and culture; Mr. Somphong Mongkhonvilai, deputy chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee; Mr. Thongvan Phanlatsavong, deputy minister of trade; and Mr. Kideng Thammavong, Lao ambassador to Myanmar.

The leader of the Myanmar delegation clarified matters relating to developments in drawing up a constitution, as well as political, economic, and social affairs and efforts for national unity. Moreover, the Myanmar delegation reaffirmed its independent and active foreign policy based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence and its continuing active role in the Nonaligned Movement. The Lao leader clarified the implementation of a reform policy in the LPDR in recent years and plans for public economic development until the year 2000. Furthermore, the Lao side also reaffirmed its consistently followed foreign policy based on peace, freedom, goodwill, and cordial relations with other countries, especially with neighboring countries.

Sr. Gen. Than Shwe and the Myanmar delegation visited and toured economic production establishments, cultural, and religious sites in Vientiane, Vientiane Province, and Luang Prabang Province. Both sides firmly agree that this successful trip will further strengthen the foundation of the existing good neighborly relations and bilateral cooperation and will also enhance promotion of regional development, peace, stability, and cooperation.

SLORC Chairman Sr. Gen. Than Shwe expressed his warm thanks to Laotian President Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan, the Laotian Government, and the Laotian people for their kind hospitality during the Myanmar delegation's goodwill visit. During the visit, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1, called on Mr. Saman Vignaket, chairman of the Lao National Assembly; Brig. Gen. D.O. Abel, minister of national planning and economic development, called on Mr. Khamphoui Keoboualapha, Lao deputy prime minister and chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs, called on Mr. Somsavat Lengsavat, Lao minister of foreign affairs; Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture, called on Mr. Sisavat Keobounphan, Lao minister of agriculture and forestry; and Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information, called on Mr. Bounteng Vongsai, acting Lao minister of information and culture.

The following agreements were signed during the visit:
1. An agreement on the fixed international boundary of the Mekong River.
2. An agreement on the establishment of a joint commission for bilateral cooperation.

3. An agreement on tourism cooperation.

Sr. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of SLORC, extended an invitation to Laotian President Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan and his wife to visit the Union of Myanmar during this present stable period and the Laotian president warmly accepted.

More on Communique

BK1406042394 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] 1. In response to an invitation from His Excellency [H.E.] Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], H.E. General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] paid an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 9 to 13 June 1994.

2. Accompanying H.E. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of SLORC, are Mrs. Than Shwe; H.E. Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the SLORC, and Mrs. Khin Nyunt; H.E. Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture; H.E. Brigadier General D.O. Abel, minister of planning and economic development; H.E. U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs, and Mrs. Ohn Gyaw; and H.E. Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information; along with a number of high-ranking officials of the Myanmar Government.

3. H.E. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmar, and his delegation were accorded a warm welcome, which reflected the long-standing close relations of friendship between the peoples of the two neighboring countries.

4. During the visit to the LPDR, H.E. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmar, and H.E. Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, met and talked in an atmosphere of close friendship.

5. During his stay in the LPDR, H.E. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmar, called on and held official talks with H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR. The two leaders fruitfully discussed bilateral relations and international issues of common interest. The meeting and talks proceeded in an atmosphere of close friendship and mutual understanding.

6. Attending the meeting and talks on the Myanmar side were H.E. Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the SLORC; H.E. Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture; H.E. Brig. Gen. D.O. Abel, minister of planning and economic development; H.E. U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs; H.E. Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information; and H.E. U Maung Maung Lay, ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the LPDR. Attending on the Lao side were H.E. Choummali Sai-gnason, minister of national defense; H.E. Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs; H.E. Sisavat Keobounphan, minister of agriculture and forestry; H.E. Thongdam Chanthaphon, head of the Presidential Office; H.E. Bounteng Vongsai, acting minister of information and culture; H.E. Somphong Mongkhonvilai, deputy chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee; H.E. Thongvan Phanlatsavong, deputy minister of trade; and H.E. Kideng Thammavong, ambassador of the LPDR to the Union of Myanmar.

7. The Myanmar leader informed the Lao leader of the extensive changes in the constitutional, political, economic, and social fields in the country and efforts to achieve national concord. The Myanmar side reiterated its positive implementation of the foreign policy of independence on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. It also reiterated its active contribution to the nonaligned movement.

8. The Lao leader informed the Myanmar leader of the success in implementing the comprehensive and principled restructuring policy in the LPDR in recent years and the socioeconomic development plan from now to the year 2000. The Lao leader also reiterated the consistent implementation of the foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and cooperation with all countries, first and foremost with neighboring countries.

9. H.E. Gen. Than Shwe and his delegation visited a number of economic establishments, historic and cultural places, and temples in Vientiane capital, Vientiane Province, and Luang Prabang Province.

10. The two sides highly assessed the success of the visit and considered it as a firm basis for the enhancement of the relations of neighborly friendship and cooperation in the future and as a contribution to the promotion and establishment of peace, stability, and cooperation for development in the region.

11. H.E. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmar, expressed sincere thanks to H.E. President Nouhak Phoumsavan, the government, and people of the LPDR for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation throughout the official visit on this occasion.

12. During the visit, consultative meetings were respectively held between H.E. Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the National Assembly of the LPDR, and H.E. Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, first secretary of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmar; between H.E. Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee of the LPDR, and H.E. Birg. Gen. D.O. Abel, minister of planning and economic development of the Union of Myanmar; between H.E. Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR, and H.E. U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs of the Union of Myanmar; between H.E. Sisavat Keobounphan, minister of agriculture and forestry of the LPDR, and H.E. Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, minister of agriculture of the Union of Myanmar; and between H.E. Bounteng Vongsai, acting minister of information and

culture of the LPDR, and H.E. Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, minister of information of the Union of Myanmar.

13. During the visit, the two sides jointly signed the following agreements: the agreement between government of the LPDR and government of the Union of Myanmar on the permanent international boundary between the two countries along the Mekong River, the agreement on the establishment of a joint commission for bilateral cooperation between government of the LPDR and government of the Union of Myanmar, and the agreement on tourism cooperation between government of the LPDR and government of the Union of Myanmar.

14. H.E. Gen Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmanr, has invited H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR, and wife to pay an official visit to the Union of Myanmar at an appropriate time for both sides. H.E. President Nouhak Phoumsavan has accepted the invitation with pleasure.

[Dated] Vientiane, 13 June 1994

Editorial Hails 'Success'

BK1406104494 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Editorial from 14 June PASASON: "New Era of Laos-Myanmar Relations and Cooperation"]

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], and delegation paid an official visit to the LPDR from 9 to 13 June 1994 at the invitation of H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. H.E. Gen. Than Shwe and his delegation were accorded an honorable welcome by H.E. President Nouhak Phoumsavan and the Lao people in all places they visited. H.E. Gen. Than Shwe and the delegation called on Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. They also visited various places of economic, historic, and cultural significance in the capital, Vientiane Province, and Luang Prabang Province.

Official talks between H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR and delegation, and H.E. Gen. Than Shwe, chairman of the SLORC of the Union of Myanmar, and delegation were held at the Hokham Presidential Office in Vientiane. The two sides informed each other of outstanding situations in their respective countries during their talks, which proceeded in a good atmosphere of profound friendship and mutual understanding. They also exchanged views on international issues of common interest. The two sides expressed satisfaction over the increasing development of good relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries of Laos and Myanmar. This development has been shown concretely through the exchanges of high-level delegations, the exchanges of visits between the peoples, and the settlement of various problems between the two countries on the basis of sincerity and mutual understanding.

Noteworthy is that following the visit, the Government of the LPDR and the Government of the Union of Myanmar have jointly signed three agreements—namely the agreement on tourism cooperation between governments of the two countries, the agreement on the establishment of joint commission for bilateral cooperation, and the agreement between Government of the LPDR and Government of the Union of Myanmar on the permanent international boundary between the two countries along the Mekong River. These three agreements serve as a firm basis and mark a historical milestone for the further and fruitful enhancement, promotion, and expansion and the long duration of the existing, good relations of friendship and cooperation between Laos and Myanmar. The signing of the three agreements has proved the intention and desire of the two sides to promote and strengthen the relations and cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and complete respect of each other's sovereignty.

The success of the SLORC chairman of the Union of Myanmar and his delegation during this official visit to the LPDR marks the opening of a new era—an era for the further strengthening, ever more profoundly and extensively, the relations and cooperation between the two countries and the fraternal friendship and affection between the two peoples of Laos and Myanmar. The Lao people would like to wholeheartedly hail the glorious success of the visit on this occasion. They pledge to do their utmost, together with the Myanmar people, to contribute to further developing the existing, good relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and fruitfully implementing the agreements on cooperation in various fields as already signed by the governments of the two countries. This will bring about concrete benefit to the two peoples of Laos and Myanmar and contribute to promoting and establishing peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation for development in this region and the rest of the world.

Trade Union Delegation Returns From PRC

BK1106114694 Vientiane KPL in English 0959 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] Vientiane, June 10 (KPL)—A delegation of the Lao Federation of Trade Union (LFTU) headed by Khampan Philavong, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee (LPRP CC) and LFTU president, returned home on June 8 afternoon ending his working visit to China, Mongolia, and Thailand.

During the visit, the LFTU delegation had meetings with its counterparts to inform each other of the situation in their respective countries and drew lessons from each other. The visit was aimed at enhancing solidarity and cooperation with the trade unions of those countries in the future. The delegation also visited economic and cultural sites in each country.

The visit was in response to the invitations of the trade unions of those

Training Board Delegation Visits PRC

BK1006143294 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Jun 94

[Text] A delegation of the Propaganda and Training Board of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC], headed by Osakan Thammatheva, member of LPRP CC and acting chief of the LPRP CC Propaganda and Training Board, left Vientiane at noon yesterday to pay an official visit to the PRC.

The visit to the PRC by the delegation is aimed at meeting and exchanging experience on ideological work with Chinese counterparts and at strengthening the traditional solidarity between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and China.

Our delegation will stay in Beijing and Kunming for one week.

Labor Minister Leaves for Geneva Conference

BK1306135494 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Vientiane, June 13 (KPL)—A delegation of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] led by its minister, Thongloun Sisoulit left here on June 11 for Geneva, Switzerland, to attend the annual conference of the International Labour Organization to be held there from June 7-24.

At this conference, the Council of Labour from each member country will make a report on the labour situation of their countries. The conference will also discuss many issues concerning labour, management and use of labour and labour welfare, as well as the protection of the just right of the working people.

Saravane, SRV's Quang Tri Province Sign Pact

BK1206123694 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 11 Jun 94

[Text] A report from Saravane Province said that Thongvang Sihachak, secretary of the party committee and governor of Saravane Province, and Nguyen Phuong, secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's committee of Quang Tri Province of the SRV, signed a memorandum of cooperation between the two provinces in Saravane Province on 6 June.

The memorandum stated that the two sides unanimously agreed on a cooperation plan in the economic, cultural, and social development and public security maintenance along the border of the two provinces. In addition, the two sides also agreed to open a 165-km route from Quang Tri Province to border crossing point No. 71 through the provisional border crossing point A-16 and an 8-km road from Laos' Sam-oi District to the said crossing point in order to create favorable conditions to promote the relations and border trade between the peoples in the two provinces, for example between Sam-oi and Ta-oi Districts in Saravane Province and (Hoa) District in Quang Tri Province.

The delegation from the SRV's Quang Tri Province paid a working visit to Saravane Province on 5 and 6 June. During the visit, the delegations of the two sides held talks to exchange experience on various issues, especially in the economic, cultural, social, and public security and national defense fields. They also discussed the outcome of the implementation of a memorandum signed by the two sides on 18 November 1992, noting that several initial achievements have been made. The two sides agreed that the visit by the delegation of Quang Tri Province positively contributed to increasing and strengthening the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation between the two provinces.

Biographic Data on Military, Political Leaders

94P30066 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 6 Apr 94 p 1

[Text]-Biographic Data on Military, Political Leaders

[Editorial Report] The following information has been extracted from Lao and Thai press sources as indicated.

Asang Laoli, Maj Gen—Member, LPRP CC; Minister of Interior [note discrepancy in rank vice KPL English 5 Mar 90] (PASASON 5 Mar 90 p 1)

Bouaban Volakhoun Editor-in-chief, PASASON (ALOUN MAI [LPRP theoretical journal] 1992

Bouakeo Samounti, Lt Col— Hatsaifong District, Vientiane military commander visited Thailand on police theft case (Bangkok MATICHON 2 Sep 92 p 19)

Bouathong Vonglokham(note last name)— Minister of Communications,Transport Posts, and Construction (VIENTIANE MAI 28 Jan 94 p 6)

Bounthon Chitvilaphon, Brig Gen—Deputy Chief of Staff, LPA (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 30 Mar 94 p 1

Bouthong Phounsalit—Deputy Governor, Bolikhamsai Province speaks with refugees (PASASON 15 Jul 92 p 1)

Bounchan Thanthavong, Lt Col— Deputy Chief, MOI Cadre Organization Department at police NCO course (Vientiane MAI 27 Aug 92 p 1)

Bounheuang Douangphachan—Member, LPRP CC and Governor, Sayaboury Province, (PASASON 16 Jan 92p 1) Party Secretary and Governor (PASASON 22 Apr 92 p 1)

Bounleut Soulignavong—Party Secretary, Hatsai District,Vientiane Prefecture [note same last name as Brig Gen Saisompheng Soulignavong] (VIENTIANE MAI 26 Aug 92 p 1)

Bounma Mithong, Brig Gen— Vice Minister of Interior [note discrepancy in rank vice KPL English 5 Mar 90] (PASASON 5 Mar 90 p1) Vice Minister, MOI and on committee responsible for MOI. (VIENTIANE MAI 3 Sep 92 p 1)

Bounmi Chitpanya— member of the board of directors of Mountain Area Development Company, comments on irrigation investments (PASASON 9 Jun 92 p 3) Bounneng Khamsavang—Party Secretary, Khamkeut District Bolikhamsai Province (PASASON 12 Dec 91 p 1)

Bounthon Chitvilaphon, Brig Gen—Vice Chief of Staff, LPA (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 6-12 Dec 91 p 1) Chandi Thongkhamsi Vice Chairman, Khammouan Province Administration Committee (PASASON 12 May 90 p 1)

Chanko Phimmason, Brig Gen— Deputy Chief, Army General Political Department (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 21-27 Feb 92 p 1)

Chansi Phosikham—Acting Governor, Luang Prabang (Pasason 17 Dec 91 p 2) Acting Party Secretary, governor of Luang Prabang Province (PASASON 2 Jun 92 p 1) provincial party congress elects him provincial party secretary (PASASON 23 Aug 93 p 1)

Cheng Sai-gnavong—Director General Mountain Area Development Company [no military rank noted] (PASASON 4 Aug 92 p 1) Deputy Secretary for Baseechelon Party Chapter(s) of the Group of Mountain Area Development Corporations and Chairman of the Group. [No military rank given] (VIENTIANE MAI 19 Mar 93 pp 1,8)

Douangchai Vichit, Col— Member, LPRP CC, Deputy Chief of Staff LPA (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 1 Sep 93 p1)

Douangchai Phichit, Brig Gen— Member LPRP CC, LPA Deputy Chief of Staff (last name corrected from above entry) KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 30 Mar 94 p 1)

Himmakon— Vice Minister of Transport, Communications, Posts, and Construction (PASASON 13 May 91 p 2)

Inpong Khai-gnavong— Secretary LPRP Committee and Chairman, Provincial Administrative Committee, Khammouan Province (PASASON 12 May 90 p 1)

Kensi Manivong, Col— Chief, Cadre Organization Department of the Army General Political Department (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 23-30 Jan 92 p 1)

Keo Lanthason—Chief, People's Court of Khammoun Province comments on drug seizure (PASASON 15 Jul 92 p 1)

Ket Kiattisak— Chairman, Supreme People's Court (VIENTIANE MAI 1 Jan 91 p 1)

Khamboun Douangpan-gna—Sekong Province Party Committee Secretary and Provincial Governor (PASASON 22 Apr 94 p 1)

Khamkong Liamphachan— Chief, Legal Department, Ministry of Justice (PASASON 28 Sep 90 p 1)

Khammi Sai-gnavong— Deputy Party Secretary, Vientiane Province (VIENTIANE MAI 5 Apr 94 p 2)

Khamphan Phimmavong— Secretary Party committee and Chairman,Administrative committee Viangthong District, Houa Phan Province (PASASON 9 Oct 90 p 1)

Khamphan Siboualipha, Col— Member of Province Party Standing Committee and Chief, Vientiane Province Public Security Service (VIENTIANE MAI 21 Dec 90 p 1)

Khamphon Boutdakham, Maj Gen— Member, LPRP CC; Vice Minister of Interior [note discrepancy in rank vice KPL English 5 Mar 90] (PASASON 5 Mar 90 p 1)

Khamsai Mongmisai— Deputy governor, Bokeo Province (Bangkok SIAM RAT 23 Aug 93f p 3)

Khen Phalivong— Deputy Governor, Khammouan and chief, Economic Planning and Finance for province (PASASON 24 Jul 92 p 1)

Kouan Keomani— Party secretary and Governor, Louang Namtha Province (PASASON 16 Jan 92 p1)

Loi Chansawat— Vice governor, Luang Namtha Province (PASASON 3 Jan 92 p 2)

Maidom Chanthanasin—Deputy director general, Mountain Area Development Company (PASASON 4 Aug 92 p 1) Mai-en Inseng Party Secretary and governor, Phong Saly Province (PASASON 24 Sep 92 p 1)

Manichan Vongvilat—Wrote six-page article in LPRP theoretical journal on Lao-PRC relations (ALOUN MAI No 4, Dec 89 pp 51-57)

Mounkeo Olaboun— Deputy Governor, Vientiane Province (PASASON 20 Jul 92 p 1)

Nakhon Sisanon— Member, LPRP CC, Bolikhamsai Province Party Secretary (PASASON 2 Sep 92 p 2) Onchan Thammavong, Mrs. Member, LPRP CC; Chairman, Lao Women's Federation. Spoke at women's seminar. (MEGNING LAO Jan 90 p 3)

Oudong Southammavong, Capt— Chief, Interrogation-Investigation Police for Vientiane Capital visited Thailand on police theft case (Bangkok MATICHON 2 Sep 92 p 19)

Ounla Sai-gnasan— Governor, Bolikhamsai Province (PASASON 8 Feb 92 p 1) Pani Yathantou, Mrs. Acting Chairperson, State Bank (PASASON 4 Dec 90 p 2) Member, LPRP CC (PASASON 28 Mar 91)

Phimpha Solitthidet— Chairman, Administration Committee, Mok Mai District, Xieng Khouang Province (PASASON 25 Jun 90 p 2)

Phimpha Thepkhamheuang— Member, LPRP CC and Deputy Secretary Vientiane Prefecture Party Committee (VIENTIANE MAI 28 Aug 92 p 1)

Phoumi Thipphavon— Member, Supreme People's Assembly, Acting Prty secretary and Chairman, Xieng Khouang Province Administrative Committee (PASASON 14 Nov 90 p 4) Governor, Xieng Khouang Province and member, LPRP CC (PASASON 5 May 92 p 1)

Sali Phailot, Colonel— Deputy Chief, Department 3, Ministry of Interior opens MOI course for non-commissioned officers (VIENTIANE MAI 27 Aug 92 p 1)

Savai Xaignasena, Brig Gen— Chef de cabinet, Ministry of Defense (Bangkok BAN MUANG 17 Aug 90 pp 1,19)

Sian Saphangthong— Vice Minister of Agriculture and Forestry (PASASON 10 Feb 93 p 2)

Siboun Khounthongbang, Col— Member, Vientiane Capital Party Committee and Commander, Capital Military Command (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 8 Mar 90 p 1)

Sichan Xomphou, Col— Deputy Governor and military commander, Dhampassak Province (PASASON 25 Oct 91 p 1)

Siphon Phalikhan, Lt Gen— Member LPRP CC; Vientiane Province Party Committee Secretary and Chairman, Province Administrative Committee (PASASON 1 Mar 91 p 1)

Somchai Chanthavong— Chief, Bolikhamsai Province Customs Office (PASASON 1 Sep 92 p 1)

Somhak Phoummavong, Brig Gen— Director, LPA High-level Officer School (Bangkok BAN MUANG 17 Aug 90 pp 1,19)

Sompadit Volasan—Vice Minister of Trade and Tourism (PASASON 16 Jan 92 p 2)

Somphan Phengkhammi— Governor, Houa Phan Province, escorted Thai crown prince on visit (PASASON 17 Jun 92 p 1)

Somphet Thitmala, Col— Member, LPRP CC and Chief, Army General Logistics Department (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 20 Oct 93 p 1)

Somthong Mangnomek— Deputy governor, Xieng Khouang Province (PASASON 5 May 92 p 1)

Soukan Mahalat— Elected party secretary, Bokeo Province in provincial party congress election (PASASON 3 Feb 94 p 1) Had been Deputy Party Secretary, Sayaboury Province, Party Secretary for Xieng Hon-Hong Sa Special Zone (ibid. p 2)

Souli Nanthavong— Minister of Science and Technology (PASASON 25 Feb 91 p 1)

Soulima Bounleut, Maj Gen—Deputy Chief, Army General Political Department (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 23 Apr 92 p 1)

Soutchai Thammasit, Brig Gen— Chief, Ministry of Interior Organization Department (VIENTIANE MAI 8 May 90 p 1)

Thongdam Chanthaphon— Secretary, Provincial Party Committee, Chairman, Provincial Administrative Committee, Attopeu Province (PASASON11 May 90 p 1) [PASASON 17 May 91 omits party committee citation]

Thongmani Thiphommachan— Member LPRP CC, Vice Chairman, Vientiane Prefecture Administrative Committee (VIENTIANE MAI 26 Dec 91 p1) Deputy party secretary Vientiane Prefecture (VIENTIANE MAI 25 Aug 92 p 1)

Thongphan Keophosai— Governor, Bokeo Province (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 23-30 Jan 92 p 1) Acting Party Secretary, Bokeo Province spoke at 1st Provincial Party Congress (VIENTIANE MAI 31 Jan 94 p 1)

Thongphoun Chanphengxai— Vice chairman, Province Administrative Committee, Chief, Agriculture and Forestry Section, Khammouan Province (PASASON 5 Mar 91 p 1)

Tongli Yiaxeng— Deputy Party Secretary, Louang Namtha Province (PASASON 7 Jun 90 p 2)

Thongsavan Phomvihan— Deputy Chief, International Organization Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (PASASON 29 Jan 93 p 1)

Thongseo Boungnasan, Capt— Chief, Foreigner Protection, Vientiane Police. Visited Thailand on police theft case (Bangkok MATICHON 2 Sep 92 p 19)

Thongvan Phatthasit, Col—Chief, Army Public Security Department [this position not previously observed in Lao press reporting] (KONGTHAP PASASON LAO 6 Apr 94 p 1)

Thongvang Sihachak— Acting Governor, Saravane Province (PASASON 12 Feb 92 p 1), listed as governor in PASASON 7 Feb 92 p 1. Governor, Saravane Province. Held negotiations with Thais on rebels, drugs. (Bangkok PHU YING NAEO NA 14 Oct 93)

Viangvilai Heuangchansai— Chief prosecutor, Vientiane Capital (PASASON 20 Apr 92 p 1)

Vilai Sougnalin, Lt Col— Deputy governor and military commander Bokeo Province (PASASON 19 Aug 92 p 1)

Xaisompheng Soulignavong— Chief, ministry of Interior Department four (VIENTAINE MAI 22 Dec 90 p 1) Director General, Police Department with rank of Police Brigadier Gen (Bangkok DAILY NEWS 30 Aug 92 p 16)

Xaixengli Tengbliacheu— Secretary of the Oudomxai Province Party Executive Committee (PASASON 28

Mar 90 pp 1,2) Party Secretary and Chairman, Provincial Administrative Committee, Oudomxai Province (PASASON 6 Mar 91 p 1)

Xiengsom Kounlavong, Brig Gen— Vice Minister of interior [note discrepancy in rank vice KPL English 5 Mar 90] (PASASON 5 Mar 90 p 1) Yao Phonvantha Member LPRP CC; Secretary, Party Committee and Chairman, Administrative Committee, Xekong Province (PASASON 14 Feb 91 p 1)

Philippines

Oil Venture Called 'Potentially Dangerous'

BK1406084894 Hong Kong AFP in English 0818 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Report by Martin Abbugao]

[Text] Manila, June 14 (AFP)—The Philippines' frenzied search for oil has led it into potentially dangerous waters with the grant of an exploration contract around the disputed Spratly islands, analysts said here Tuesday.

Philippine officials in May gave the green light to Alcorn Petroleum and Minerals Corp. and US partner Vaalco Energy Inc. of Houston, to begin preliminary exploration work on the Reed Bank, an undersea structure near the South China Sea chain.

The six-month, non-exclusive contract includes "research and library work" on aeromagnetic surveys and other data held by the Department of Energy.

Philippine energy officials insist the area where the exploration would be conducted is not part of the Spratlys—a chain of atolls in the South China Sea claimed wholly by China and in part by Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam.

The Spratlys are believed to sit atop vast deposits of oil and natural gas and also straddle strategic sea lanes. All claimants but Brunei have stationed troops on islets in the chain.

Analysts say Manila's recent move would strengthen its sovereignty over islets, reefs and atolls it has garrisoned, but could also have a political and diplomatic impact on efforts to peacefully resolve the territorial dispute and suggestions for joint development of the area.

"It's a response to what the Chinese and Malaysians are doing," Julius Cesar Parrenas, director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, told AFP.

He was referring to Beijing's granting of a contract to the US-based Crestone Energy Corp. to explore for oil in the area, prompting vehement protests from Vietnam. Malaysia has also embarked on a project to develop a resort in the Spratlys.

"One means of strengthening sovereignty is by already having activity there, such as a contract of government or development plans," he said, adding that exploration was a good move by the Philippines.

Noel Morada, an analyst with the Institute for Strategic and Development Studies, said what is crucial to the Philippines' move is the reaction of China and Vietnam.

"Since we are taking this particular action, we should be prepared of the possible consequences," he said. "This is an economic move which has political implications."

Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro and Undersecretary Rufino Bomasang on Tuesday sought to forestall trouble by insisting the permit granted to Alcorn was limited to the Reed Bank and did not include areas in the Spratlys.

The Reed Bank is an underwater structure between the Philippine island of Palawan and most of the Spratlys.

Lazaro and Bomasang said Manila had done exploratory drilling there in the 1970s, which had not been disputed by other claimants, adding that political and diplomatic repurcussions had been considered before the permit was granted.

Alcorn said in a statement the research permit only covered the Reed Bank and excluded the disputed areas of the Spratlys.

But the statement said the area of coverage also includes Patag and Lawak islands—two of the eight small islands and reefs garrisoned by Philippine marines and collectively referred to by Manila as the Kalayaan (Freedom) group.

The group was annexed in a presidential decree by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

The Philippines has become an attractive site for oil exploration with news of recent oil strikes off Palawan, confirming the country's potential. It has programmed 18 wells for drilling this year, many in frontier areas.

Ramos Meets Australian Foreign Minister

BK1406055394 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos and visiting Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans agreed on Monday to further strengthen the existing harmonious relations between their respective countries [word indistinct] trade and investment. The president and Minister Evans made the commitment during their 30-minute meeting in Malacanang [presidential office], which was also attended by Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo, Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Paul Dominguez and Australian Ambassador Richard Smith.

Minister Evans assured the president of the Australian Government's continuing support to his administration as well as his personal commitment to help the Philippines obtain progress and development. Australia is the third largest economy in Asia and the 14th in the world, with 60 percent of its exports now going to the East Asian region. Minister Evans told the president he visited several investment centers including Subic Bay Free Port in Zambales and Davao City and General Santos City in Mindanao. Minister Evans visited Mindanao last 10 to 11 June with members of his official delegation to explore possibilities of linking Australia's northern territory with Mindanao. He informed the president of Australia's keen interest in the East ASEAN Growth Area or EAGA concept of economically grouping Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Cooperation With Malaysia 'Strengthening'

BK1406073494 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] The Philippines and Malaysia are working at strengthening their joint defense cooperation. This was revealed by Defense Secretary Renato de Villa after his meeting with Malaysian Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak in Kuala Lumpur.

According to De Villa, Tun Razak proposed the formulation of plans for the exchange of defense equipment between the two countries. De Villa said he likewise proposed launching joint patrol operations to stop high-sea smuggling in the area between the Philippines and Malaysia.

Abu Sayyaf Group Releases 20 of 21 Hostages

BK1406055194 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Twenty out of the 21 Christian hostages have been finally released after being taken captive by the Abu Sayyaf group in Basilan for six days. The only remaining hostage is Father Cirilo Lacorda. The announcement was made by Armed Forces Chief General Arturo Enrile in a news conference last night at a military camp in Manila after receiving the report from Armed Forces Southern Command Chief Orlando Soriano. Based on the report, all the hostages, including 18 public school teachers, were freed Monday afternoon. Enrile said that the release of 20 Christian hostages was made possible with the intervention of the civilian negotiators led by Basilan Governor Gerry Salabudin to the local Abu Sayyaf leader Barhama Sali alias Amir. However, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff did not mention whether the demand of the kidnappers for a P[Philippine pesos] 1 million ransom for the safe release of the hostages was paid. There are reports that Gov. Salabudin paid P200,000.00 for the release of the 20 hostages.

Earlier, government authorities met three of the five demands sought by the notorious group of Muslim-based bandits for the safe release of the hostages. Among these demands include: the reinstatement of 737 Basilan-based schoolteachers who were earlier terminated form service because they were not Civil Service eligibles; disallowing the wearing of short pants by female Muslim students during physical education activities and allowing them to wear turbans while inside the campus and not to allow military and police authorities to interfere with the ongoing negotiations between the government and the bandits led by (Juljilang).

The Abu Sayyaf group is also demanding the suspension of military and police offensives in Basilan. However, AFP Chief Arturo Enrile said that despite the safe release of the hostages, massive military operations will resume against the dreaded extreme Muslim fundamentalists operating in the Provinces of Sulu, Basilan, Maguindanao, Cotabato and in the cities of Zamboanga, Davao, Cotabato and General Santos. General Enrile deployed a battalion of marine contingents from Luzon to provide reinforcement to the government forces in Mindanao.

Military Support for Abu Sayyaf Group Suspected

BK1306144894 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Senator Santanina Rasul suspects the terrorist Abu Sayyaf group is being supported by the military. According to Rasul, several persons have told her they saw the military helping some active members of the Abu Sayyaf group.

[Begin Rasul recording in English] There are those who feel that the Abu Sayyaf or some people in the Abu Sayyaf are supported by the military. And I think the military should look into this angle—that one of the leaders was seen being ferried by a PCF [expansion unknown], being ferried by a military chief, and escorted by military personnel in Basilan.

So again, this has given rise to suspicion that maybe the Abu Sayyaf are not really what they are. Maybe, it is something more that, [pause] more than meets the eye. But on my part, as a leader of this region—as a Muslim leader—I feel that this incident should not be used to project the idea of Muslim-Christian conflict. [end recording]

This statement followed information released by Criminal Investigation Service Regional Command 9, which stated that the firearms confiscated from Mujin Aminudin who is allegedly the supply officer of Abu Sayyaf, came from the Logistics Command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines at Camp Aguinaldo.

Senator Rasul also said that the root cause of the Abu Sayyaf problem is attributed to the slow pace of the government's peace talks with the Muslim rebels, as well as the military's failure to grant Abu Sayyaf's earlier requests on their previous kidnapping operations.

[Begin Rasul recording in English] So, I think we have to fast track this peace process with the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]. Otherwise, we will find ourselves on the losing end. The people who should be supporting the government might be incited by this extremist group to join forces with them because they feel that nothing much is happening in the peace talks between the MNLF and the government. [end recording]

Ramos Rejects Authoritarian Rule

BK1406084194 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] President Ramos rejected suggestions that the Philippines should imitate other Southeast Asian countries in using authoritarian methods to promote economic growth. Ramos said that the Philippines' often chaotic democracy should not be blamed for its failure to match the rapid growth of other countries in the region. The president said that when the Philippines was placed under martial law in 1972, economy suffered badly, resulting in greater misery for ordinary Filipinos.

First Quarter Balance of Payments Reduced

BK1306141494 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 9 Jun 94 pp 1, 5

[Text] The country's balance of payments (BoP) position dipped by 4.64 percent to a $616 million surplus during the first quarter compared with the year ago level of $646 million, according to the latest Bangko Sentral [Central Bank] figures released yesterday.

Foreign investments inflow primarily accounted for the surplus, posting a 203.18 percent increase to $1.619 billion from the year ago level of $534 million.

Of the total, $502 million was traced to the remittance in March of Arab American Oil Co. (Aramco) to the national government as payment for a 40 percent stake at Petron Corp. The Aramco proceeds accounted for 46 percent of the P1.085 billion improvement in the foreign investments inflow.

The rate of outflows continued to outpace inflows during the quarter, climbing 285.25 percent to $1.071 billion from the year ago level of $278 million.

The Bangko Sentral data showed that unrecorded outflows, lodged under the "errors and omissions account," went down by 10.28 percent to $192 million from the year ago level of $214 million.

A source said the drop in the withdrawals of nonresidents may be due to the substantial influx of investments in government securities and bonds, which is usually associated with the hike in domestic interest rates.

Inflow of medium and long-term loans declined by 23 percent to $914 million from the year ago level of $1.187 billion. This may reflect the cautious stance taken by multilateral and bilateral institutions as the country negotiated for a three-year program with the International Monetary Fund. The IMF Executive Board is scheduled to take up the Philippine request for a $650 million facility before the end of the month.

Net short-term capital, including foreign borrowings with maturities of less than one year, registered a whopping 114.29 percent increase as $45 million were repaid during the period.

The balance sheet was exacerbated by the trade deficit, which widened by 29.82 percent in the first quarter compared to the year ago level. Merchandise trade deficit totalled $1.663 billion as import payments outpaced export receipts, posting a 21.91 percent uptick to $4.579 billion. Export receipts, on the other hand, amounted to $2.916 billion, registered a 17.82 percent hike from the year ago level of $2.475 billion.

The source pointed out the growth in import receipts could have been fuelled by speculations that the peso exchange value would continue to strengthen against the dollar.

Although remittances from overseas workers increased to $2.209 billion during the period, this failed to offset the 24.69 percent growth in nonmerchandise trade payments totalling $1.389 billion.

The country's current account position showed a $676 million deficit. Receipts from invisibles, which include freight and merchandise insurance, travel and investment income, grew by 8.38 percent to $194 million from the previous year's $179 million.

Corresponding payments stood at $27 million, a surge of 1,250 percent from the year ago level of $2 million.

Other BoP accounts registered the following advances:

—monetization of gold, $38 million or a 137.5 percent hike from the previous year's $16 million; and,

—revaluation adjustments, $1 million, or a 97.14 percent decline from the year ago level of $35 million.

Thailand

U.S. Blamed for Delay in Helping Rwanda

BK1306092894 Bangkok THE SUNDAY NATION in English 12 Jun 94 p A6

[Editorial: "US Drags Its Feet as Ethnic Madness Grips Rwanda"]

[Text] After months of dithering over what to do about the orgy of tribal bloodletting in Rwanda, the United Nations finally gave the go-ahead late Wednesday for the deployment of 5,500 peacekeepers to guard aid convoys and protect civilians in special humanitarian zones inside the country.

Almost immediately, the governments of Ghana and Zimbabwe announced they were ready to deploy troops but the United States says it will be weeks before it can send long-promised equipment. This delay is intolerable.

Each day that help fails to arrive, more Rwandans are being slaughtered and the food and health crisis gripping the country worsens.

On Friday, the head of the UN operation in Rwanda, General Romeo Dallaire said the deployment of more UN reinforcements was "already weeks late."

Priests massacred

He said that he had been receiving desperate calls for help daily, including one from the archbishop of Kigali before he and other 12 priests were massacred last week. But with few troops and limited equipment, the general said he was powerless to save them from death squads.

Estimates of the number of people butchered in the small African state range from 200,000 to half a million but even these horrific figures may be under-representing the scope of the mayhem in the country.

In the black hole of government-held land to the west of the country, where Hutu death squads are continuing their rampage against the minority Tutsis, about two million refugees have "vanished." Aid groups which expected them to pour across the border into Burundi say they have simply not turned up.

Washington must take much of the blame for the tardiness of UN action. It repeatedly blocked earlier efforts to deploy UN peacekeepers, demanding that a ceasefire be agreed first.

The U.S. position sought to restrict the reinforcements to operating on border areas. The new resolution allows the mainly African extra peacekeepers to go to the capital Kigali, if possible, and fan out through the country to places where civilians are most at risk.

Washington's position has shown an appalling disregard for the lives of Rwandans.

Even as late as Friday, the White House was still trying to avoid categorizing the Rwanda killings as genocide out of fear the term might incite public calls for greater U.S. action.

A State Department spokeswoman told a disbelieving press conference: "Clearly not all of the killings that have taken place in Rwanda are killings to which you might apply that label (genocide)."

Slashing and hacking

How the Clinton administration can classify the slashing and hacking of hundreds of thousands of Tutsis to death as anything but genocide is bewildering.

Nearly two million Tutsis, including an estimated 500,000 unaccompanied children whose parents have either been killed or lost, are displaced and thousands are trapped in hostile zones under the constant fear of death.

UN officials says they are starting to see children in Kigali with bloated bellies, an early sign of starvation. Hunger-related deaths have already been reported in the south.

It is imperative that the US waste no more time in dispatching the equipment the UN needs to restrain the ethnic madness in Rwanda.

Washington must also bring whatever diplomatic pressure it can on Uganda, the main backer of the predominantly-Tutsi Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF). Unless the RPF halts their offensive and agrees to a ceasefire, it will be difficult for the UN to make arrangements for the care of refugees.

ASEAN Members Urged To Speed Up AFTA Cuts

BK1106111594 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Jun 94 p 15

[Text] ASEAN Free Trade Area [AFTA] members should speed up the reduction of taxes to below 5 percent on products that have potential to attract foreign investment in the region, according to Suwan Phasuksawat, deputy director-general of the Fiscal Policy Office.

While AFTA participants have agreed to reduce taxes on many products to between zero and 5 percent within periods ranging from eight to 15 years, the reductions should be expedited in some cases, he said.

Mr Suwan headed the Thai delegation at the ASEAN senior officials' meeting in Indonesia on June 3 and 4. Besides discussing tariff cuts, participants also reviewed measures that are considered non-tariff barriers under the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Under the AFTA framework, non-tariff barriers will have to be scrapped within the next five years.

Prasong Warns Burmese Not To Protest

BK1406063694 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jun 94 p 3

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Susiri warned Burmese students yesterday not to protest in an effort to bar Rangoon's representatives from attending a foreign ministers' meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Burma will attend the ASEAN ministerial meeting in Bangkok in July for the first time as the guest of the host country, Thailand. Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong said dissident Burmese students should refrain from conducting political activities affecting Thailand's relations with Burma.

"The Burmese students who live at the (Burmese Students) centre should know how to behave.

"It is not appropriate for them to conduct any activities jeopardising relations between Thailand and neighbouring countries while living here," the minister said, apparently referring to Burma.

The Interior Ministry is attempting to block protests which might take place during the meeting.

Interior officials are keeping a watch on Burmese dissidents and ethnic minority groups including students at the centre at Ban Maniloi in Rat Buri Province as the ministry has been told about a plan to prevent Rangoon officials from attending the meeting.

Project With Cambodia To Be Speeded Up

BK1406063294 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jun 94 p 2

[Text] Thailand and Cambodia intend to speed up the establishment of the Mekong Committee after it has laid dormant for nearly two decades because of political instability in Cambodia, according to the Foreign Ministry.

A statement released following a 45-minute meeting between visiting Cambodian Minister of Public Works and Transport Ing Kiet and Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday morning said Thailand and Cambodia agreed to the importance and benefits of the early establishment of the Mekong Committee.

Both countries are also open to other Mekong countries—China, which is the source of the Mekong River, and Burma joining the Mekong Committee after it is set up officially.

Cambodia officially rejoined the three other riparian countries Thailand, Vietnam and Laos in their efforts to work out common grounds for the use of the river in February 1993.

The four countries said a common framework would be completed within a year with each country setting up a working group to draft the framework with the United Nations Development Programme serving as coordinator.

Sources said an agreement had still not been reached on the sensitive issue of the use of the water in the Mekong River. Ing Kiet, the chairman of Cambodia's Mekong Committee, said after meeting Science, Technology and Environment Minister Phisan Munlasatsathon on Friday that Cambodia was open to other countries joining the committee after a framework on the use of the Mekong is completed.

"As soon as our authority finds a solution acceptable to all four governments, why not expand the committee to outside countries. We are open to that," he said.

Ing Kieth is on a five-day official visit to Bangkok, Nong Khai and Maha Sarakham as guest of the Science, Technology and Environment Ministry. He is scheduled to leave Bangkok today.

Bilateral cooperation and the current political situation in Cambodia were also raised during the meeting with Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong.

The two ministers expressed the hope that tomorrow's talks between government and Khmer Rouge representatives in Phnom Penh would be successful.

Both agree the development of Cambodia and support for the prosperity ot the Cambodian people are important to bringing about peace and prosperity in the region as a whole.

Thailand could cooperate with its neighbour in the area of infrastructure development and energy.

Libya To Send Workers Home in Three Months

BK1106091694 Bangkok PRACHACHAT THURAKIT in Thai 12-15 Jun 94 p 77

[Excerpt] According to a source in the foreign job placement field, Libya has instructed Libyan employers to send Thai workers home in three months. Earlier this year Libya announced that it would not hire any Thai workers. Libyan employers have begun to hire many workers from China and Vietnam to replace outgoing Thai workers.

Piti Chuchunmanakit, manager of the Siri and Son Job Placement Company, which places Thai workers in Libyan jobs, said Libya has implemented a new policy which bars completely the hiring of Thai workers. Cooperation has been sought from employers to gradually send all Thai workers home. In three more months, the contracts of most Thai workers will have expired and they will have to return home.

According to Piti, Libya's annoucement was first regarded as merely a threat. Recently, the Libyan Government sent circulars to employers telling them to stop hiring Thai workers. Piti said he could not estimate how many Thai workers would be sent home, noting that the number of Thai workers is quite large. He said: "About 800 workers placed by my firm now remain in Libya. All of them would have to return home in three months."

Piti said, among Middle East countries, Libya has a very big demand for foreign workers. Huge projects, such as gas and oil distilleries, are at the beginning stage. Thousands of Thai workers could have found jobs there if it had not been for the international political problem.

Piti added that Libya and Iran pay the highest wages in the Middle East. Despite the number of Thai workers in Liyba, the Thai Government and the Labor Ministry have not attempted to solve the problem on their behalf. As a solution, job placement firms will probably look to Iran, where wages are also high. [passage omitted]

Paper Urges Iran To Cease 'Interference'

BK1106114894 Bangkok KRUNGTHEP THURAKIT in Thai 11 Jun 94 p 2

[Editorial: "The Iran Government Must Not Make Accusations or Interfere in Thailand's Internal Affairs"]

[Text] The Iranian Embassy in Bangkok issued a statement on 9 June urging the Thai Government to be vigilant against Zionists who use Thailand as a tool to discredit its government. The statement said the Zionists had created a false terrorist scenario. It added that Iran opposed and condemned all forms of terrorism against the life of innocent people and regarded them as inhumane and un- Islamic.

Earlier, the Iranian Government through its Foreign Ministry protested against the Thai police's arrest of three Iranians on charges of colluding to bomb the Israeli Embassy in Bangkok to avenge the Hebron massacre. One of those arrested was suspected of being the driver of the bomb-laden truck which was involved in an accident near the Israeli Embassy and who had subsequently fled abroad.

The Thai officials did not disclose how they had obtained information about the terrorists. By charging that the Zionists had created a false scenario, the Iranian Embassy was probably referring to any Jewish group or person. Zionist is the definition of a Jewish who seeks to create a Jewish nation. A Jew who believes in this doctrine works openly or secretly, and sometimes illegally, to achieve his goal without regard to the effect his action may have on others. Based on this characteristic of Zionism, Iran has charged that Thailand was being used by Zionists as a tool to create hatred toward it.

As a member of the mass media not under government control, we wish to argue against the Iranian Government. Thailand is independent and neutral in its relations with other countries. It treats all countries equally. It does not engage in prejudice against any person. If a person is suspected of a crime, he will be arrested for questioning. It is inappropriate for the Iranian Government to use Thailand as an arena for international political conflict, particularly as Thailand has good relations with Israel as well.

A religious dispute exists between Iran and Israel. It is inappropriate to make an accusation against Thailand over the arrest of Iranians suspected of a crime in Thailand. The Thai Government has the perfect right to investigate and try the suspects free from interference by any government.

We do not want to see Thailand used by any country as an arena for waging a cold war or any kind of war. Regarding the Iranian Government's reminder to Thai officials to promptly process the case for the sake of clarity, Thai officials are already doing so with due care. A reminder from any government is not necessary because the case affects Thailand's security. The Thai people earnestly desire the case to be solved so that Thailand will not be viewed suspiciously by other countries, which would affect foreign investment and trade.

If the suspects did not commit any wrong doing or if there is insufficient evidence, we are confident that the Thai court will dismiss the case. Therefore, we urge the Iranian Government to treat Thailand fairly. It should not feel that Thai officials might be so gullible as to use information from the Zionists to convict the suspects.

The Iranian Government's action is regarded as interference in Thailand's internal affairs. If it persists, obstacles will result in its diplomatic relations with Thailand, despite the fact that trade and political relations between the countries have been proceeding smoothly with very few problems. Please cease your interference in an internal affair that affects only Thailand's security and public safety.

Progress of Intellectual Property Court Noted

BK1106102894 Bangkok PRACHACHAT THURAKIT in Thai 12-15 Jun 94 p 6

[Text] Justice Minister Sawai Phatthano has informed PRACHACHAT THURAKIT of the progress of the draft bill on the establishment of an intellectual property and international trade court. He said his ministry forwarded the bill to the secretary general to the prime minister two weeks ago. He believes the bill will be considered by the cabinet soon.

Sawai said his ministry had already reviewed the bill two or three times. He believes the bill is now in the office of Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, who will make the final scrutiny before placing it on the agenda of a cabinet meeting.

Sawai said: "The establishment of the intellectual property and international trade court is just as important as the administrative court because it concerns national interest. It is also the prime minister's wish to bring it to Parliament promptly. Regarding the charge that the establishment of the court is the result of a U.S. threat of retaliation under Article 301, the Justice Ministry has given an assurance that the issues are unrelated. Thailand is a proud country; why must it succumb to U.S. demands? The ministry is considering national interests in setting up the intellectual property and international trade court. The court's structure will follow international lines. On this point, the United States may enjoy some benefits and may be pleased by the action which Thailand has taken."

The Cabinet decided in May 1993 to order an establishment of the intellectual property and international trade court under the Justice Ministry. A committee was formed to study the court's structure. The committee then formed a subcommittee to draft relevant laws. The subcommittee drafted a bill containing 43 articles and presented its opinions on the advantages and weaknesses of an intellectual property and international law court.

The advantages include the following: 1. The judges are required to have a background in intellectual property and international trade. The qualifications of associate judges are also set. 2. The chief judge has the power to set regulations. 3. Appeals are filed directly with the Supreme Court. The weaknesses are: 1. The accused will have only two courts to hear their cases. 2. Sentencing will be done by the provincial courts.

MP's Urged To Unite To Forge New Constitution

BK1106103494 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Jun 94 pp A1, A4

[Text] More than 100 leading academics yesterday made public an open letter demanding the government and the opposition jointly set up a special committee to draft a new, more democratic constitution.

One hundred and thirteen intellectuals from institutions across the country—including Chulalongkon, Chiang Mai, Songkhla Nakharin, Khon Kaen, Mahidon and Thammasat universities—signed their names to the letter.

Organizers said it would be submitted to House Speaker Marut Bunnak on Monday.

The letter said all politicians should cooperate to resolve the political impasse fuelled by activist Chalat Worachat's hunger strike as soon as possible, before a national crisis develops.

The academics accused the Democrat Party of being insincere in its effort to ease the current political tensions.

Efforts to end Chalat's hunger strike should not be used as a bargaining chip by any political group seeking to take advantage of the situation.

All politicians, and in particular government MPs, should be decisive in resolving the impasse, the letter said. Opposition MPs had already declared their full support for Chalat's demand for a House committee to draft a new charter.

Surichai Wankaeo, deputy dean of Chulalongkon University's Political Science Faculty, said the letter was aimed at prompting the government to introduce more democratic changes.

He said if democracy was enhanced Chalat may decide to quit his hunger strike.

Academic Suchai Trirat said the people should not consider Chalat's hunger strike "pressure outside Parliament" as Chalat's purpose was to help develop the parliamentary system.

"Politics does not mean only the people inside Parliament," he said.

Dailies View Current Political Tension

BK1406103194

[Editorial Report] The 14 June issues of four Thai dailies—SIAM RAT, THAI RAT, MATICHON and NAEO NA—carry editorials on the current political situation, which has arisen from the demand for constitutional reform by hunger striker Chalat Worachat and his supporters and detractors both in and outside parliament.

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai on page 3 carries a 600-word editorial, entitled: "Tackle the Political Crisis." It says: "The call for constitutional reform initiated by Chalat Worachat by staging a hunger strike has evolved into a call for political reform. Chalat himself is probably surprised by the way things have developed, which are different from his four original demands. However, it appears that Chalat has no objection to the new development."

The editorial concludes: "The current political crisis should develop in a direction that benefits society and the country as a whole, not any particular group or political party."

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai on page 3 carries a 600-word editorial, entitled: "Dissolve the Parliament." The editorial says: "The current political situation has gone beyond Chalat's hunger strike since organizations for democracy and academics have joined the campaign for political reform." The dispute within the Phalang Tham Party over whether to support the campaign "could result in the party withdrawing itself from the coalition government. The resulting political crisis could lead to a clash between mobs of the opposite sides and a blood bath as Dr. Prawet Wasi warned earlier. This situation could be exploited by certain groups to seize power. Therefore, the best solution is to forget pride and dissolve the parliament in order to return power to the people to avoid such a seizure of power."

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai on page 2 carries a 700-word editorial, which is entitled: "Open and Sincere." It says: "The differences of ideas triggered by Chalat Worachat's hunger strike have increasingly widened. A cause for this development is the inflexible position of the government leader and his political party. Another cause is probably the confusion over the numerous proposals by various sides on how to solve the issue. The unclear positions of the various coalition parties, which try to conceal their stands to gain political advantage, are also to blame."

The editorial concludes: "In this situation, we appeal to all sides which are carrying on political activities to do so openly and appropriately inform the public. Do not conceal these activities to gain political advantage. Only sincerity and determination will help relieve the current situation. In particular, the government leader, who is responsible for what happens in the country, promptly must play his role. He cannot just cling firmly to his stand regardless of how the situation may develop. The question, which the government must answer, is: What must be done to solve the situation peacefully? The question is no longer about who is right and who is wrong."

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai carries a 700-word editorial on page 3 entitled: "To The Democrat Party." The editorial says: "The political situation has reached the point that a decision has to be made. Chalat's demands have received considerable support by democracy-loving groups, although some of them disagreed with the protest method. It is possible to have the House of Representatives form a commission to study or redraft the constitution. Whether or not its recommendations can be put into use is another matter.

"To relieve political tension and prevent divisiveness among the government political parties and the situation from worsening any further, we appeal to the prime minister and the Democrat Party to listen to the views of other parties in the coalition government and democracy-loving people. The constitution amendment may not be achieved today, but it is time to start now."

Exports Predicted To Reach 2.5 Trillion Baht

BK1106111394 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Jun 94 p 15

[Text] Thailand is expected to double its share to about 1.8 percent of total world trade with exports worth 2.5 trillion baht in the year 2000.

The forecast emerged yesterday from a meeting of a subcommittee considering the country's competitiveness, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Supachai Phanitchaphak.

It is outlining plans to increase the country's exports until the year 2000.

An adviser to Dr Suphachai, Dr Thirana Phongmakaphat, said Thai exports were likely to expand 13 percent-15.5 percent annually in the period.

The estimates were also based on world economic growth of 5 percent a year but this figure would have to be readjusted in line with trends.

The subcommittee outlined 15 measures to hoost exrports, including promotions, increased efficiency and a greater role for regional groups such as the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation organisation in technology development.

The subcommittee also suggested measures be adopted for industries in which Thailand has an advantage over its rivals, such as agriculture, textiles, gems and jewellery, electronics and printing and packaging.

Government Urged Not To Block Crisis Solution

BK1306145494 Bangkok KRUNGTHEP THURAKIT in Thai 13 Jun 94 p 2

[Editorial: "Government Decision, Party Resolution, Public Opinion; What Really Counts Is National Survival"]

[Text] In our capacity as the people of a country with a democratic government, we have no doubt that national survival depends on the fact that the minority must accept opinions of the majority, that the rules are made by the voice of the majority, no matter the government, political party, or any interest group. Yet, this must go in accordance with the trend of the society and reflect the desire of the majority—a true majority, and not a majority by some who claim to represent the people since that would be a distortion of the democratic principle.

We disagree with the prime minister's stand concerning the current situation. He said that government decisions must be used as guidance whereas resolutions of political parties can be taken into account as composite. We, on the other hand, think that, in the present situation, the government decision, which mainly reflects the thinking of the Democrat Party, rather serves to "block" than "solve" the current crisis. It is different in nature from the motion proposed by the Phalang Tham Party that a committee be set up to compile and rewrite a draft constitution, or the proposal made by the New Aspiration Party that Article 211 of the Constitution be amended to pave the way for the appointment of a constitution drafting council.

The Democrat Party has been trying to block all passages leading to a solution to the problem. It pressured the Phalang Tham Party to have the party withdraw its motion, claiming political etiquette as a pretext. It also tried to confuse the public about the New Aspiration Party's proposal to amend Article 211 of the Constitution saying the move was illegal and that the party should have proposed such an amendment to the Special House Committee Scrutinizing the Draft Constitution.

By talking about political etiquette and appealing for proper steps to be followed to solve the problem, the Democrat Party made us realize that it has lost sight of the real problem; the nation has already been divided into two lines of thinking with a tendency towards violence at any time. This is not the right time to interpret the Constitution by the letters of the words—what is legal or illegal. At this moment, we must join together in order to find a solution to avoid confrontation.

We support the move taken by the Organization for Political Reforms that undesirable violence must be avoided at all costs. We support the organization's appeal to the speaker of the House of Representatives to table the Phalang Tham Party's motion on agenda for deliberations at the earliest, either on Wednesday or

Thursday. We call on the parliamentarians to approve the motion in order to pave the way for the drafting of a constitution of the people. This may seem difficult to materialize, but the process will enable the people to see more clearly the true color of political parties prior to another general election.

No matter what the option—the Phalang Tham Party's motion or the proposal by the New Aspiration Party, it is quite clear now that the government will not be able to control the majority in the parliament. In the name of the people of a country under a democratic government, we would like to ask the government to return the "power" to the people so that they can make a decision by themselves in keeping with the trend of society. That would be the most correct way to solve this national crisis at the time we are experiencing the absence of "leadership."

Vietnam

Do Muoi: Problems With U.S. Resolved

BK1406092094 Hong Kong AFP in English 0904 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi, June 14 (AFP)—Vietnam has resolved its main problems with the United States, especially the issue of US troops missing in action (MIA) from the Vietnam War, which dogged relations for nearly 20 years, Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi said.

In an interview with AFP on Monday, Do Muoi said the 2,231 MIAs were a "humanitarian" issue that had been settled, although it was "still an internal problem in the United States."

"We are acting in good faith," he said, referring to Vietnamese help in the effort to discern the fate of the missing troops.

The United States on February 3 scrapped an embargo on trade with Vietnam that had been set in place to press Hanoi on the MIAs. The move was followed in May by a mutual decision to set up liaison offices in Hanoi and Washington—the first step towards restoring full diplomatic ties.

Do Muoi said he did not rule out an historic first visit to Vietnam by a US secretary of state in the near future. Warren Christopher is to go to Bangkok next month for a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and US press reports say he may stop off in Vietnam before or after the visit.

"He can come when he feels like it," Do Muoi said.

US-Vietnamese trade has surged since the end of the trade embargo. The deals include a contract with the US oil giant Mobil for exploring offshore oil sites, as well as the sale of 100,000 tonnes of rice for the US market.

Turning to regional issues, Do Muoi said he was "concerned" at the Korean nuclear crisis, the situation in Cambodia and the friction between Vietnam and China over sovereignty in the South China Sea.

Vietnamese Defence Minister General Doan Khue left Hanoi Monday on the first official visit to Pyongyang by a ranking Vietnamese military chief in 19 years.

The visit, Do Muoi said, was purely on a "friendship basis" and had no link with rumours that Khue would press the North Koreans over their nuclear programme.

"We've got other things to worry about," he said, adding that Vietnam had no intention of selling arms or ammunition to North Korea.

Do Muoi repeatedly emphasised Vietnam was only interested in peace after years of war, and intended to widen and strengthen its ties with the rest of the world, as its wish to join the Association of South East Asian nations "sooner or later" demonstrated.

He attacked a Chinese contract with a US oil company, Crestone, for drilling rights near the disputed Spratly Islands, but said disputes of this kind should be resolved by "patient negotiations," although insisted that the Spratlys and the Parcels in the South China Sea "are ours."

'Deep Concern' Expressed Over Nuclear Crisis

BK1406114794 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] In answering an AFP correspondent inquiring about Vietnam's reaction on the IAEA's [International Atomic Energy Agency] decision to pose punitive sanctions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a spokesman of our Foreign Ministry on 14 June said:

Vietnam follows with deep concern recent developments of the nuclear issue in the Korean Peninsula. We believe that all members of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, have similar obligations in the nuclear issue. We are always persistent in our belief that the solution for this complicated issue can only be reached through resolute and serious negotiations between the parties concerned on the basis of equality and respect to each other's independence and sovereignty and to international laws.

All actions at variance with that direction will only worsen the already complicated situation, and will harm the trend of peace, stability, and cooperation for the Pacific region which all countries in the region are striving to maintain.

Kazakhstan President Receives Vo Van Kiet

BK1406004794 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 13—President of Kazakhstan N. Nazarbayev received in Almaty this morning Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet who arrived there yesterday for an official friendship visit.

President Nazarbayev expressed his wish that Vietnam would share her experience in the economic renovation and inflation restriction with Kazakhstan. He said that in recent years, the relations of cooperation between Vietnam and Kazakhstan was slowly developed, the two-way trade value was at low level due to historic circumstance. At present, he said, in new conditions and with goodwill developing, their traditional cooperative and friendly relations should have a new step of development in such relations.

The president highly valued Vietnam's achievements and experience in its renovation process, especially in the economic field. He affirmed that such achievements have been a great encouragement source to the Kazakhstan people. President Nazarbayev also expressed his belief that Vo Van Kiet's current visit would usher in a new era in the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two states and peoples. He asked P.M. Kiet to convey his best regards to President Le Duc Anh.

For his part P.M. Kiet said that Vietnam has always followed with keen interest the Kazakhstan's situation, and attached great importance to the consolidation and enhancement of the friendship and cooperation with Kazakhstan and that the delegation's first visit to Kazakhstan would be a foundation for the promotion of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Reportage on National Assembly Continues

Voters Present Views

BK1206143394 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Jun 94

[First part of report compiled by National Assembly Standing committee on voters' views submitted to Fifth Session of Ninth National Assembly]

[Text] The Implementation of Duties in the First Six Months of 1994.

I. In the socioeconomic field.

General speaking, voters in all localities unanimously agreed that the socioeconomic results achieved in recent years are encouraging. The economy enjoys a relatively high development rate. The life of a large part of the public has been significantly improved. These further confirm that the renovative line in all social aspects initiated by our party is very correct and appropriate with every passing day.

In agriculture production, the 1993-1994 winter-spring rice crop yielded good results throughout the entire country. Agricultural commodities are abundant. In general, the life of the peasants continues to improve. Voters in all localities hold that all party's lines and policies and state laws relating to agricultural production have significantly accelerated agricultural production, especially the Fifth Party Plenum resolution on the development of agriculture and rural areas.

However, a series of problems remained to be solved. The voters' suggestions mainly concentrate on the following issues:

1. The government needs to study and outline a management model for agricultural cooperatives in the new economic structure. At the same time, the government should introduce policies to make the use of land in rural areas more reasonable and just. At present, the long-term granting of land to peasant households is a correct line, which provides encouragement and peace of mind for the peasants, and allows them to carry out their production, improve the soil, and increase their harvests. However, the unfair and unreasonable granting of land still occurs amongst peasants and non-peasants. Land is still registered in the name of deceased people. Newborn people are not given land for their future production, and houses are still allowed to be built on five-percent reserved land.

2. The government needs to continue its policy of providing subsidies to agricultural products. The subsidizing of agricultural products is an issue brought up many times by voters throughout the country. At present, the imbalance of agricultural and industrial goods is being adjusted too slowly. This causes concern among peasants.

Voters in most provinces and cities suggest that the government should reduce the price of materials used in agriculture production and cut down the fee for the irrigation service because the current irrigation fee of 12 percent is too high. Voters in some localities suggest that the government should reduce agriculture tax rates and introduce more practical regulations so that agriculture promotion organizations can actually provide more support to agriculture production development.

3. The government needs to urgently improve its credit service and capital management to ensure loans to the right people, reduce embarrassing and inconvenient procedures, and increase the amount of credit and the repayment periods with reasonable interest rates to create conditions for peasants to improve production and business. They also suggest that the government end the situation where poor men can not obtain loans while rich men can repeatedly ask for them. In some localities, voters suggest that the government should instruct the banking sector to provide six-month loans for yearly crops and loans for more than two years for perennial plants.

4. While the entire country is enjoying a good harvest, central provinces, especially Quang Tri and Thua Thien-Hue, are still suffering continuously poor harvests due to harsh weather and frequent natural disasters. Voters in these provinces suggest that the government should adopt practical measures to help peasants suffering from poor harvests stabilize their life and develop production.

Regarding industrial production and small industrial and handicraft production, voters in many localities hold that, with the challenge of the market economy, industrial production and small industrial and handicraft production continue to stand firm and develop, helping to increase the state budget revenue and meeting most of the public demand for consumers goods. However, voters in some localities suggest that the government should introduce concrete taxation and credit policies for different economic sectors to ensure the leading role of the state economic sector. At present, state economic units have to shoulder a greater share of the national budget than the nonstate economic units. Therefore, the state economic sector and the collective economic sector can not compete with other economic sectors. In order to satisfactorily carry out government decree No. 388 on the rearrangement of state economic units, voters suggest that the government should instruct ministries which have production units to closely coordinate with local government so that the decree can be executed correctly and that, after the rearrangement, all state enterprises will continue to carry out their business effectively. Together with the rearrangement of state enterprises, voters also suggest that the government should continue the program to introduce a share holding system in state enterprises.

As on previous occasions, voters in many localities suggest that the government pay more attention to the agricultural product and foodstuff processing industry, balance investment in construction, and ensure a reasonable and equal distribution of industrial establishments in all localities in order to quickly consume products made by the peasants and overcome the current disparity of wealth in different provinces. Together with efforts to give priority to the development of the processing industry, voters suggest that the government should adopt suitable policies on investment in and marketing of products made by small industry and handicraft enterprises, continue to improve structure for the acceleration of small industry and handicraft production, and generate more jobs for the laboring people.

Regarding imports and exports, voters in many localities are concerned about the fierce competition between domestic goods and imported goods, especially among staple goods. Some of our good quality products such as electric fans, thermos, and ceramic products do not sell well because of their high price. Voters suggest that the government should apply policies to protect domestic production and resolutely stop smuggling.

According to reports presented by some National Assembly delegations, many voters hold that the rapid increase of production has lead to a large inventory, causing losses to business enterprises. In Ho Chi Minh City, the number of enterprises running at a loss is nearly 40 percent of the total enterprises. At present, some foreign companies are selling their products below cost in order to bankrupt Vietnamese enterprises before they can monopolize our market. Together with their market manipulation, foreign companies use high salaries to attract good Vietnamese technicians and workers. They also find measures to evade the control of the Vietnamese Government organs.

In order to overcome the aforementioned situation and ensure a stable development for our enterprises in the market mechanism, voters in Ho Chi Minh City have suggested to the government the following practical measures:

—Conduct reviews to evaluate the socioeconomic effectiveness of the foreign investment.

—Study the concretization of strategic targets in the issuance of investment licenses.

—Overcome loopholes in management in order to draw experiences for new projects.

The government needs to study and establish a clear market strategy to develop and fully exploit the local advantages of different localities and sectors and provide adequate protection for locally made products. Modern technologies should be attracted by encouraging the setting up of companies which are in the business of renting equipment and the setting up of branches of foreign companies which can facilitate purchase through installment plans in order to quickly accelerate our national modernization.

The information service on the market situation and new technologies should be satisfactorily organized to help foreign companies set up businesses in Vietnam and assist Vietnamese companies to choose the most efficient measures and counterparts for their business. The vestiges of the old bureaucracy and subsidy structure, which limit the creative ability of the laboring people and obstruct the application of new technologies, such as the practice of wage control and the banning of a high percentage for machinery depreciation, should be totally destroyed. Plans should be outlined to train and retrain the contingent of key cadres on modern management knowledge, public relation technique, and negotiation skills in dealing with foreign counterparts.

Regarding finance and the state budget, the voters' opinions mainly concentrate on taxation and debt solvency. Regarding the taxation policy, voters in many localities continue to suggest that the government should not yet start applying new tax rates on housing land in rural areas because our peasants are still too poor. Therefore, the government should collect the housing land tax at the same rates as the land using tax. In some areas, the voters suggest that the government should leave 50-60 percent of land tax to local governments for infrastructure construction. Voters in some localities suggest the government to consider authorizing villages to keep 20 percent of agriculture tax instead of 10 percent because at present village budgets are very small and do not meet local expenses. In villages, revenue resources are few while demand on expenses is still too great. Therefore, grassroots activities are facing numerous difficulties.

With respect to debts owned to the public by the government, voters in many localities suggest that the government should further study and adopt more practical policies to solve its debts to the public during the anti-French and anti-American wars and during the period after 1975. People in the Western part of South Vietnam have complained that the government still owes them a lot of money from when it bought paddy and rice from them. In some localities, the voters suggest that the government should finally settle government credit notes issued during the agrarian reform. Many families received the notes during the reform. Now they are facing hardship in their life. Some people left their children with government credit notes when they passed away, and the notes have not yet been paid.

Moreover, voters in some localities hold that the planning for revenue collection and expenditure assigned to different localities is sill unreasonable and not based on a uniform calculation.

Voters in Ho Chi Minh City hold that it is unreasonable for the Revenue General Department to set up a branch office to collect taxes directly at the Tan Thuan Processing Zone, because in so doing they strip the city of a source of funds which will be used to repay large amounts of debt borrowed to invest in the construction of the processing zone.

On capital construction, voters in most localities, especially those living in mountain regions, suggest the state pay more attention to building up infrastructure for localities, with appropriate investment policies and good coordination with people's contributions. Voters think that the current infrastructure situation and other social facilities such as public roads, electricity and water supplies, hospitals in many rural areas especially in mountainous and remote areas or the former revolutionary bases, are falling far behind compared with those in cities. Many voters suggest that the National Assembly should have a separate resolution on the infrastructure issue.

The issue of management in capital construction had been raised by voters several times in previous National Assembly meetings. This time, voters again suggest that the state quickly perfect the management mechanism in capital construction and strengthen inspection of investment projects, of the allocation of capital for projects at various levels, and of the building process of projects at the national level. Good management of capital investment is essential to avoid embezzlement, bribery, and waste. Voters in some localities express concern about the building of the north-south 500-kilovolt powerline and suggest the government report on this issue to the National Assembly in this session. At some places there have been suggestions for death sentences for perpetrators of sabotage activities which cause damage to national major construction projects such as the Hoa Binh Hydroelectricity Plant, the north-south 500-kilovolt powerline, and expressways. Voters in some localities repeat their suggestion that the state soon have a consistent policy on house pricing to ensure equality and to respond adequately to aspirations of many cadres and state employees.

II. In security and national defense fields.

Voters in many localities hold that achievements in security and national defense contributes significantly to our national socioeconomic development. The consolidation of a spirit of readiness for combat has brought good success in the past several years. Voters suggest, however, that the state have more active measures to strengthen the ability to safeguard the country and localities especially critical areas, directions, and lines. Voters in some localities propose a budget increase for the national defense sector and the strengthening of our armed forces. The state should quickly establish a law on national security, on borders and border protection, and approve the amended law on military obligation in this session in order to promote the quality of the army and to respond to the needs of national protection in the new situation.

III. In cultural and social fields.

Voters in many localities hold that cultural and art activities have scored some progress lately. Circulation of cultural products that are noneducational andd detrimental to young people and to people's morality gradually have been suppressed. The promulgation of the publishing law has brought practical results in the management of cultural and art activities. Voters in some localities, however, still think that the operational mechanism of cultural activities in the new situation is not yet clear, and management of the export and import of cultural products still shows flaws. Examples of new cultured lifestyle building at the grassroots level have not been used to campaign for more examples. Cultural interaction between mountain regions and lowlands is still too limited. The cultural life of compatriots living in mountains, remote areas, and in former revolutionary bases is still too meager. According to many voters, Vietnam television and radio networks as well as some papers carry too many advertisements and these advertisements are of poor quality and noneducational.

Voters suggest that the amount of advertisement be cut down and be replaced by useful programs such as law education and education of national traditions. Local voters also want to hear and listen to more programs from central networks. Voters also request stronger management of parabola antenna installments in hotels, restaurants, and private houses to prevent recording of films and videos which are noneducational. The cultural and information authorities should have clear stipulations on this matter.

Regarding education, voters in many localities took into account the recent progress of the education and training sector. The application of many forms of schools and courses as well as of rich and flexible training activities has met actual requirements and created conditions for more children to attend school. On the contrary, voters in other localities maintained that at present, instead of making progress, the education sector is facing the danger of being left farther behind with each passing day. Therefore, they suggested the National Assembly review the contents of educational policies and lines.

As in the past, voters in almost all localities suggested that the state and education sector continue to adopt practical policies and measures to improve the quality of education and train a contingent of young cadres having an equal level of professionalism with other countries. Due efforts must be made to improve the knowledge of teachers, encourage outstanding students and young men to attend teachers training schools, include foreign language training in Level II schools in the countryside, attach importance to the building of material bases and other learning facilities for children, abolish classrooms that have leaky roofs or are seriously damaged, and get rid of third shift class meetings. Steps must be taken to lessen contributions and henceforth, reduce the number of school dropouts.

Many voters suggested that the state continue to work out a textbook subsidization policy to benefit students. Voters in many localities also suggested that the state review the current system of education decentralization and budget allocation based on areas of activities. On the contrary, voters in some localities concurred with the policy on budget allocation management by the education sector and on giving full power to school principals to manage teachers and handle special issues and budget spending. Voters in many localities suggested that the state review the wage system for teachers in charge of management because many teachers are transferred to a management position after they have done an excellent teaching job, but still earn wages lower than those paid to teachers.

Voters in a number of localities, particularly mountain provinces, suggested that the state provide adequate budget allocations to compulsory elementary education and anti-illiteracy activities, particularly in high-altitude areas where the illiteracy rate remains very high. Voters in other localities suggested the state adopt a practical policy toward kindergarten and Level I teachers, especially those in the countryside and mountain regions where they have to work very hard whereas the wage and allowance system is very low and life is rife with many difficulties.

Regarding public health care, voters in many localities noted that so far, the public health care sector has made progress in a number of domains. However, like in the past, many voters maintained that no due attention has been paid to the development of grassroots public health care system. Generally speaking, the grassroots public health care system is still deficient in terms of cadres, medicines, and medical facilities. At present, the living conditions of the contingent of grassroots public health care cadres remain very difficult. Voters in a number of localities maintained that though the prime minister of the government had issued Decision 58/CP on the policy toward grassroots public health care cadres, the implementation of this decision still faces many difficulties, especially in terms of budget allocation.

Many voters agreed with the need to organize health insurance. However, voters in a number of localities maintained that health insurance coverage remains formalistic, that the application of a health insurance coverage based on a number of designated hospitals causes difficulties and inconvenience to patients whereas people capable of making direct payments still receive better care and treatment, that efforts to reorganize the hospital system and improve the ethical conduct of physicians have not yet brought about the expected results, and that the poor meet with many difficulties in seeking medical care and treatment.

According to reports by a number of National Assembly groups, voters hope that the state works out a health insurance policy to cover not only cadres and state officials but also peasants, with attention being given to poor households, and that the family unit should be used as the basis for the issuance of health insurance cards.

Voters in many localities also suggested that the state adopt a policy to give hospital fee exemption or reduction to social welfare recipients and needy people or organize charitable hospitals to serve the poor.

Communique No. 13

BK1406004494 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Communique No. 13 issued by the Ninth National Assembly's fifth session]

[Text] On Saturday, 11 June, National Assembly deputies held group meetings to discuss the implementation of National Assembly resolutions in the first half of 1994. On 13 June, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Nguyen Ha Phan.

In the morning session, the National Assembly heard Energy Minister Thai Phung Ne's report on the construction and completion of the North-South 500-kilovolt power line. Afterward, National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh delivered a speech commending cadres, workers, and people in localities for their creativity and efforts to overcome numerous difficulties and ordeals to complete the significant project of the nation. He also urged responsible agencies and people in provinces to effectively protect this project to ensure its optimal capacity.

The deputies then focussed their discussion on the implementation of tasks during the first half of this year and the remaining tasks for the second half. A total of 27 deputies gave their viewpoints, expressing unanimous views of the government's report presented by Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai. The deputies analyzed in depth various key issues such as efforts to ensure stable prices of agricultural products, consumption of agricultural products, change of agricultural production pattern, allocation of land and forests, settlement of nomads, implementation of project 327 to plant trees on denuded hills, situation and measures to improve textile and handicraft production, investment in key projects, bidding in capital construction, effective use of capital for infrastructure projects, mobilization of capital for investment, credit policy, achievements and difficulties in revenue collection and budget expenditure, anti-illiteracy and universalization of primary education, training of teachers, export and import of cultural works, state management over cultural activities, administrative reform, policy toward local cadres, combination of national defense task with that of economic development in the new situation, and implementation of National Assembly's resolution on practicing thrift, opposing waste, and suppressing corruption and smuggling.

Tomorrow, 14 June, the National Assembly will continue its work at the conference hall.

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